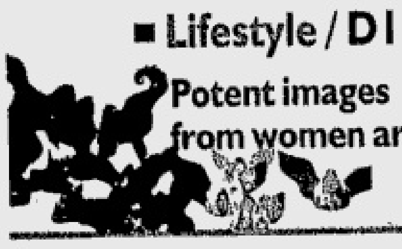


**■ Lifestyle / D1**

Potent images from women artists

**■ Business / B1**

Net inflow of 'hot money' surges to $1.52B

**■ World / A12**

India, Pakistan agree to bolster ties at 'very warm' talks

**■ News / A3**

Balangiga Bells may soon be pealing back home in E. Samar

**■ World / A12**

Troops storm Iraq town to save hostages

## Clash mars opening of gov't-MILF talks

By Jeoffrey Maitem
*PDI Mindanao Bureau*

COTABATO CITY—Two days before going into peace talks with the government, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front filed a protest on Saturday with the international monitoring team against the military's alleged violations of

CLASH/ A8

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

## Top students get real gold medals in Diwata

By Anthony S. Allada
*PDI Mindanao Bureau*

DAVAO CITY—The kids are as good as gold.

At least 10 outstanding elementary and high school students in gold-rich Mt.

TOP STUDENTS/ A21

TOTOO PALANG GINTO ANG KAALAMAN!

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Monday, April 18, 2005 ★★★ 88 pages / 10 sections / Vol. 20 / No. 129 P18

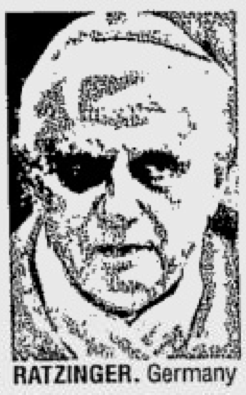
website: www.inq7.net

# BIR warned on church tax

**ARINZE.** Nigeria

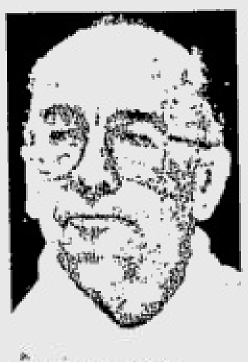
**BERGOGLIO.** Argentina

**MARADIAGA.** Honduras



**RATZINGER.** Germany

**SCOLA.** Italy



**HUMMES.** Brazil

**RE.** Italy

**TETTAMANZI.** Italy

**POLICARPO.** Portugal

**DIAS.** India

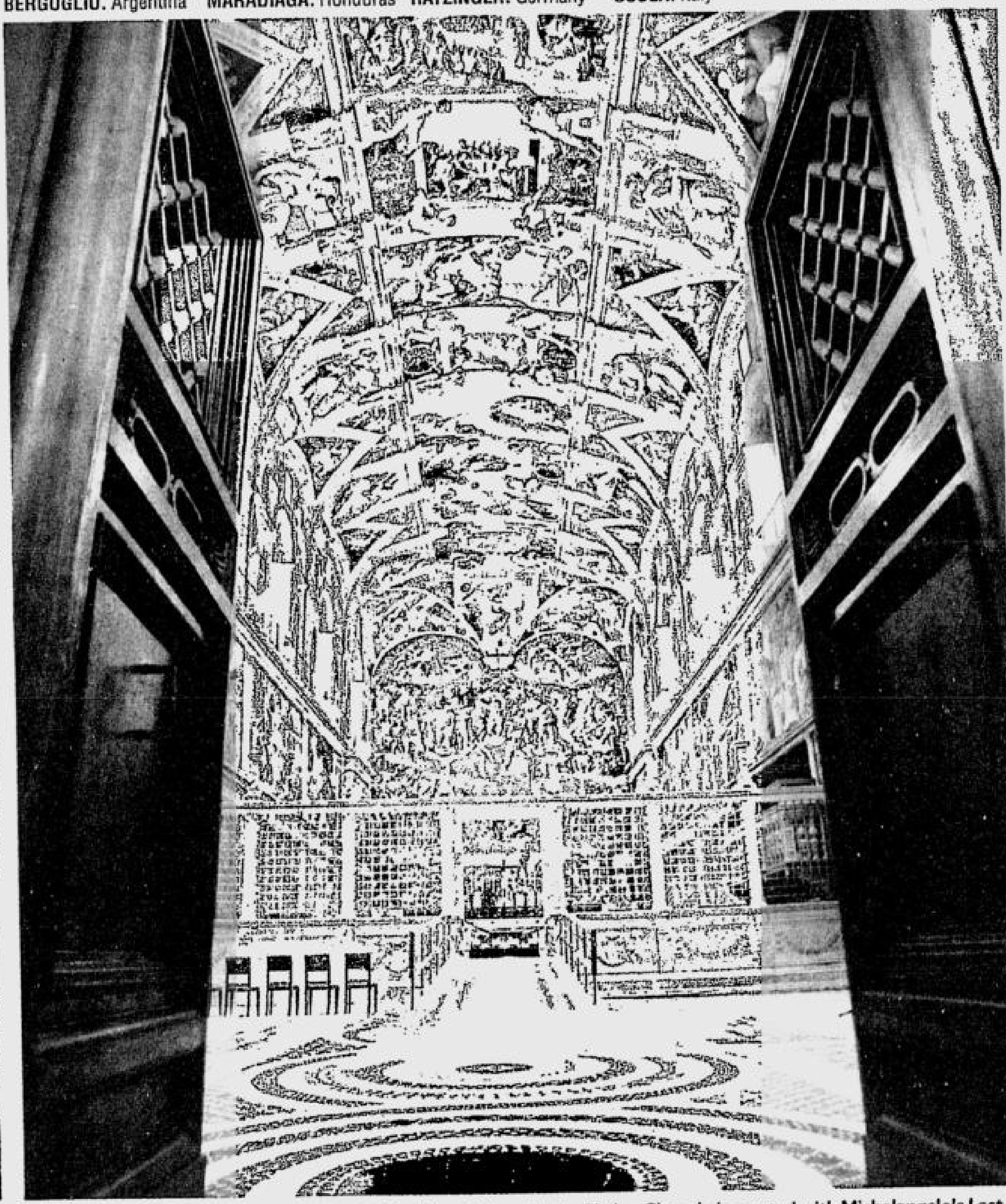
**DANNEELS.** Belgium

**SODANO.** Italy

**SCHOENBORN.** Austria

**CASTRILLON.** Colombia

**RODRIGUEZ.** Dominican Republic



**ONE hundred fifteen cardinals will meet behind closed doors in the Sistine Chapel, decorated with Michelangelo's Last Judgment, to choose the next pope, possibly from among the cardinals above.** AP

## Joker says gov't drive could spark backlash

By TJ Burgonio
and Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

ADMINISTRATION Sen. Joker Arroyo cautioned the government against imposing taxes on the commercial operations of the Catholic Church and other religious groups, saying it risked facing a backlash if it failed to justify the plan.

He said the plan of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) came as a surprise because the Catholic Church, the Philippine Independent Church and various Christian churches, as well as the Iglesia ni Cristo, had not been subjected to taxes for over 100 years.

"Suddenly, the administration would do a far-reaching and disrupting turnaround. It would like to tax the commercial operations of the various churches, something the US colonial government, the Commonwealth government and the Republic of the Philippines never before imposed," Arroyo said yesterday in a statement.

BIR Commissioner Guillermo Parayno said Thursday that religious leaders and their organizations were generally exempt from paying taxes, but their businesses on church lands or buildings and profits from other investments were not.

Unless the government could justify the

BIR/ A21

## Senate VAT bill to hurt profitable firms, says solon

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.
and TJ Burgonio

AS LAWMAKERS start their bicameral conference meeting today, Albay Rep. Joey Salceda warned that Congress might end up approving a value-added tax (VAT) measure that would punish profitable corporations instead of rich consumers.

Salceda, who has President Macapagal-Arroyo's ear on economic matters, said three provisions in the Senate version of the VAT bill would likely depress corporate profitability and adversely affect the investment attraction of the country.

These are the provisions barring power generation firms from passing on the VAT to consumers, collecting credit input from corporations with heavy capital investments and raising the corporate tax from 32 percent to 35 percent.

"We can kill the goose before it could lay the golden egg," said Salceda, who noted that

SENATE/ A6

## World awaits smoke signals from Sistine Chapel

VATICAN CITY—Sometime tomorrow (Manila time), if not earlier, smoke may start curling out of the Sistine Chapel to tell the world whether or not the Roman Catholic Church has a new pope.

The countdown to the conclave combines the tension of a nomination to the US presidency with the intrigue that surrounded the rise of a Caesar in ancient Rome.

The conclave of 115 cardinals from 52 countries, which will choose the successor to the late John Paul II, will get underway at 1430 GMT today (10:30 p.m., in Manila).

With intrigue swirling around the cardinals sworn to secrecy about their weighty deliberations—on pain of excommunication—they have added another last-minute touch of mystery.

Curiously, they have put off a decision on whether or not to begin voting this afternoon.

"As far as the first vote on Monday [is concerned], the cardinals will decide whether or not to vote after they have entered into conclave on Monday afternoon," said Vatican spokesperson Joaquin Navarro-Valls.

WORLD/ A4

## List of possible candidates for next Pontiff

*FOLLOWING are sketches of possible candidates to succeed the late Pope John Paul II (in alphabetical order):*

- Francis Arinze (Nigerian), born Nov. 1, 1932.

If elected, the Vatican's 72-year-old point man for relations with Islam would become the first African pope in more than 1,500 years.

He is the fourth-ranking cardinal in the Vatican.

Arinze's main selling point could be his adherence to the late John Paul II's strict social and theological conservatism.

- Jorge Mario Bergoglio (Argentine), born Dec. 17, 1936.

If elected the next pope, Buenos Aires Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 68, would be the first member of the influential Jesuit order to rise to the top of the Church.

Committed to the simple Jesuit

LIST/ A4

## A Filipino perspective on John Paul's successor

By Jose P. Leviste Jr.

*(The author is chair of the Philippine Business Leaders Forum and an economist at the Intelligence Unit Corporate Network.—Ed.)*

**COMMENTARY**

AFTER the nine-day period of mourning, the College of Cardinals will elect the 264th successor to St. Peter, after the death of Pope John Paul II (Karol Wojtyla). The next Pope will oversee the religious aspirations of 1.1 billion Catholics, or nearly a fifth of mankind, with the help of 4,700 bishops and 400,000 priests around the world.

The next pope, who will assume the title of Bishop of Rome and Pontifex Maximus (Supreme Pontiff), faces the big responsibility of carrying on the legacy of John Paul II, the first non-Italian Pope in 455 years since Hadrian VI. This will prove to be a challenge for him, considering that then Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, the archbishop of Krakow, Poland, was only 58 years old when he was elevated to the

A FILIPINO/ A20

**BEAUTIES AND THE BEAST(?)**
**Axe beauties flank bemused INQUIRER publisher Isagani Yambot during a visit to the INQUIRER Saturday. From left: Angel Locsin of "Darna" fame, Bubbles Paraiso, Rashel Piazza, Ayanna Oliva and Paula MacCormack.** RAFFY LERMA

**WEATHER FORECAST**

FORECAST: Light to moderate winds blowing from the northeast and east will prevail over Luzon and coming from the northeast and north over Visayas and Mindanao. The coastal waters throughout the archipelago will be slight to moderate seas.

SOURCE: PAGASA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Metro Manila | Partly Cloudy | Iloilo/Bacolod | Cloudy with Rains |
| Baguio | Cloudy with Rains | Roxas | Cloudy with Rains |
| Tuguegarao | Partly Cloudy | Cebu | Cloudy with Rains |
| Laoag | Partly Cloudy | Tacloban | Cloudy with Rains |
| Clark Zone | Partly Cloudy | Gen. Santos | Cloudy with Rains |
| Tagaytay | Partly Cloudy | Zamboanga | Cloudy with Rains |
| Legazpi | Partly Cloudy | Cagayan de Oro | Cloudy with Rains |
| Calapan | Cloudy with Rains | Davao | Cloudy with Rains |

COMPILED BY: ERIKA SARMIENTO, PDI RESEARCH/04/18/05

# 14,000 pending cases hindering CARP

By Blanche S. Rivera

**MORE than 14,000 land reform cases involving massive landholdings are still pending before the Department of Land Reform, most of them in danger of not being resolved before the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program expires in 2008.**

Land Reform Assistant Secretary Renato Herrera admitted that it would take seven years for the DLR Adjudication Board to resolve all the cases. The DLRAB, which is tasked under the agrarian reform law to handle CARP complaints, resolves around 240 cases a month.

"Some cases are like the Mona Lisa. They lie there and they die there," Herrera said at a public forum, adding that there were only three adjudicators in the DLR's central office.

Some provincial adjudicators, who are supposed to handle only one province, handle four. DLR offices without lawyers are forced to rely on paralegal personnel, Herrera said.

Herrera said it was not clear whether the DLRAB could still rule on pending cases after 2008 or if the decisions could still be enforced after the CARP deadline.

"That's why we have to fast-track the distribution of lands," he said.

The DLR has distributed 3.5 million hectares of farm lands since CARP was first implemented in 1988, or 82 percent of the target of 4.29 million hectares. Another 770,000 hectares have yet to be distributed by 2008.

The program covers all agricultural lands regardless of crop or the tenurial status of the tillers.

The remainder of the farms still to be distributed "are the more contentious ones whose landowners are actively resisting the program and would not hesitate to use remedies, legal or otherwise, to prevent or at least delay agrarian reform coverage," Herrera said.

Herrera said that lands with pending court cases were not likely to be distributed to the farmers by the time CARP expires in 2008.

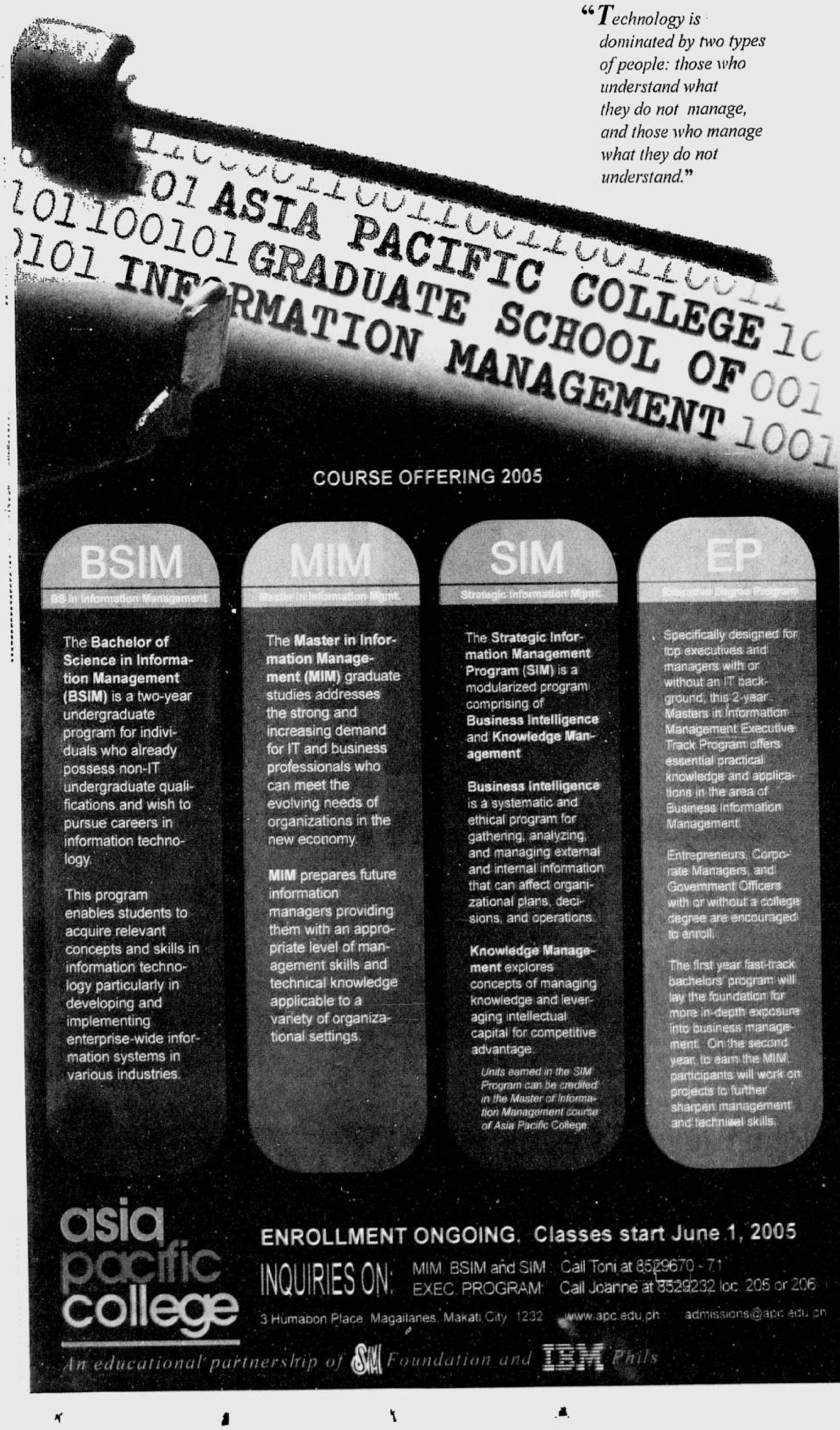
He said a large portion of the remaining CARP lands were in Negros Oriental and Occidental, Camarines Sur and Bukidnon.

From 1988 to September last year, the DLRAB had received 255,305 cases for adjudication with 241,143 cases resolved. There are 14,162 cases left for resolution, around 5,400 of which are pending at the DLRAB central office.

Herrera said the recent Supreme Court decision on the Roberto Cuenca estate in Negros would discourage the filing of more cases concerning CARP.

"The Supreme Court has already decided that lower courts have no jurisdiction over land reform cases. We expect that the number of landowners going to lower courts will be minimized," he said.

A study by the Foodfirst Information and Action Network said that "judicial obstruction" had become the biggest hindrance to the implementation of CARP in the Philippines.



"*Technology is dominated by two types of people: those who understand what they do not manage, and those who manage what they do not understand.*"

ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

COURSE OFFERING 2005

BSIM
BS in Information Management

The **Bachelor of Science in Information Management (BSIM)** is a two-year undergraduate program for individuals who already possess non-IT undergraduate qualifications and wish to pursue careers in information technology.

This program enables students to acquire relevant concepts and skills in information technology particularly in developing and implementing enterprise-wide information systems in various industries.

MIM
Master in Information Mgmt.

The **Master in Information Management (MIM)** graduate studies addresses the strong and increasing demand for IT and business professionals who can meet the evolving needs of organizations in the new economy.

**MIM** prepares future information managers providing them with an appropriate level of management skills and technical knowledge applicable to a variety of organizational settings.

SIM
Strategic Information Mgmt.

The **Strategic Information Management Program (SIM)** is a modularized program comprising of **Business Intelligence** and **Knowledge Management**

**Business Intelligence** is a systematic and ethical program for gathering, analyzing, and managing external and internal information that can affect organizational plans, decisions, and operations.

**Knowledge Management** explores concepts of managing knowledge and leveraging intellectual capital for competitive advantage.

*Units earned in the SIM Program can be credited in the Master of Information Management course of Asia Pacific College.*

EP
Executive Degree Program

Specifically designed for top executives and managers with or without an IT background, this 2-year Masters in Information Management Executive Track Program offers essential practical knowledge and applications in the area of Business Information Management.

Entrepreneurs, Corporate Managers, and Government Officers with or without a college degree are encouraged to enroll.

The first year fast-track bachelors' program will lay the foundation for more in-depth exposure into business management. On the second year, to earn the MIM, participants will work on projects to further sharpen management and technical skills.

asia pacific college

ENROLLMENT ONGOING. Classes start June 1, 2005

INQUIRIES ON:
MIM, BSIM and SIM: Call Toni at 8529670 - 71
EXEC. PROGRAM: Call Joanne at 8529232 loc. 205 or 206

3 Humabon Place, Magallanes, Makati City 1232 www.apc.edu.ph admissions@apc.edu.ph

*An educational partnership of SM Foundation and IBM Phils*

# Pinoy soldier's Haitian killer reported slain

By Nikko Dizon

THE ASSAILANT of the Filipino soldier killed in Haiti on Thursday may himself have been slain in a gun battle with police and United Nations forces the following day.

Army Staff Sgt. Antonio Batomalaque's killer was reportedly among the 10 gang members slain in a gun battle with police and UN peacekeepers in Cite Soleil, Port au Prince, Haiti, on Friday, Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero, Philippine contingent commander, said in a report to Ambassador Lauro Baja Jr., Philippine permanent representative to the UN.

The Department of Foreign Affairs quoted Lucero's report in a statement to the media yesterday.

It was not made clear, however, how the authorities knew the slain gang member was the one who had shot and killed Batomalaque. Details of the Filipino soldier's killing had yet to be made available to the Philippine Mission to the UN in New York City, the DFA said.

Information relayed by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to the Philippine Mission said Batomalaque was killed while taking part in security operations and not in a civic action project as reported, the DFA said.

Batomalaque, a 22-year Army veteran, was killed when an undetermined number of gang members attacked the UN peacekeepers setting up a checkpoint in Cite Soleil, a notorious seaside slum. The attack occurred a day after a Security Council mission that included Baja arrived to assess the situation in Haiti.

According to the DFA, Batomalaque was serving as a security escort for the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) deputy chief of operations when their group was attacked.

The UN official was inspecting security barricades being set up by Chilean, Ecuadorian and Uruguayan peacekeepers in Cite Soleil.

The Philippine Mission was informed that the peacekeepers were able to return fire but it was unclear if Batomalaque was killed in the initial burst or in the exchange that followed.

According to Lucero, the Filipino sergeant's assailant was shot dead by Jordanian troops during the hour-long firefight.

# Wounded OFWs coming home

THE TWO overseas Filipino workers wounded in a recent attack in Baghdad are tentatively scheduled to arrive in the country today together with three colleagues who escaped the assault unhurt, the Department of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

DFA spokesperson Gilbert Asuque said in a phone interview that the five OFWs would be flying back to Manila via Gulf Air from Bahrain as soon as they completed medical exams in Amman, Jordan.

Filipino workers Francisco Luz and Sherylyn Fontanilla sustained slight injuries when armed insurgents fired at the minibus they were traveling in between the city center and the Baghdad airport Saturday morning.

Luz sustained a bullet wound on his nape and armpit, while Fontanilla had bruises and contusions on her arms and upper chest, Charge d' Affaires Ricardo Endaya said in a report to Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo.

Endaya said the surgeon who treated the two workers at St. Raphael Hospital in Karradah district gave assurances that they were out of danger.

The DFA identified the other OFWs as Imelda Talibao, Ginalyn Mejia and Cherilyn Valdez. The three women were "shaken by the firefight but escaped unharmed," the DFA said in a statement.

"In light of the incident, Romulo has called on all OFWs in Iraq to come home," Asuque told the INQUIRER.

The five were on their way to the airport to catch a flight to Manila via Amman when armed men fired at their two vehicles in what appeared to be an abduction attempt, the DFA said.

*Nikko Dizon*

# Wyoming vets opt to return historic bells of Balangiga

**By Joey A. Gabieta**
*PDI Visayas Bureau*

TACLOBAN CITY—The much-sought return of the historic Balangiga Bells to the country might soon be realized.

Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone yesterday said he had been informed by the Wyoming Veterans Commission that it had decided to return the bells taken away by American soldiers more than 100 years ago from the belfry of the church of Balangiga town, Eastern Samar.

"Personally, I feel very ecstatic and anxious for the possible return of the bells which we consider as symbols of the struggles of our forebears for our freedom," Evardone told the INQUIRER.

The governor said he received an e-mail from the Wyoming Veterans Commission on April 11 informing him that it had decided on March 31 to return the bells to the Philippines.

"We welcome this decision of the Wyoming Veterans Commission to return the Balangiga bells to us.

"Perhaps they have seen the light of day… that these bells rightfully belong to the country, to the people of Eastern Samar and to the people of Balangiga," Evardone said.

The governor said the commission did not explain its decision.

Evardone said that while the commission's move would still have to be approved by the US Congress, "I take this as a victory in our struggles for the return of the bells."

"We just hope the US Congress and President Bush will not pose any objections… With the return of the bells, this might end the last irritants between the US-Philippine governments in relation to the Philippine-American War."

Evardone said he was optimistic the bells would be returned before the 104th commemoration of the Balangiga Massacre on Sept. 28.

Msgr. Leonardo Medroso of the Borongan diocese, who had repeatedly called for the return of the bells, stressed the bells were not only historical artifacts but were properties of the Church.

"The bells of Balangiga are church bells. They are religious artifacts with considerable significance in the Catholic tradition. Among other use, they call the people to prayer and worship. As such, they are inappropriate trophies of war. Hence, they should be returned to the place where they belong…." Medroso said.

The American soldiers who were stationed in the town took the two bells from the church belfry as war booty.

The bells were used to signal a surprise attack by Filipino insurgents against Americans stationed in Balangiga on Sept. 28, 1901.

What followed was a fierce fight that resulted in one of the largest number of American casualties in a single encounter. Of the 74 men of Company C, 36 were killed during the attack, 8 of the wounded died later during their escape by banca to Basey town, and four were missing and presumed dead. Of the 26 survivors, only four were not wounded.

The natives suffered 28 dead and 22 wounded.

The bells of Balangiga were taken from the belfry the next day by American reinforcement troops from Basey and were taken by the survivors to the US.

The bells are now at the "trophy park" of F. E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

The Philippine government had repeatedly asked the US government to return the bells to Balangiga, 302 km from this city.

# No openings in Samoa

THE DEPARTMENT of Foreign Affairs yesterday warned jobseekers not to fall for ads offering work in Samoa, saying there are no job openings for foreigners in the tiny Pacific island state.

This after the DFA discovered how a dubious recruitment agency managed to send 12 Filipinos to Samoa last month despite the "limited" economic activity in that country.

The department said a company called "Alliance of Tribal Minorities Philippines Inc." had illegally deployed the applicants on claims that jobs awaited them in Samoa. The company is chaired by a certain Henera "Cocoy" Busongan.

Samoan immigration officials have allowed the 12 Filipinos, who mostly hail from Benguet, to stay in Samoa temporarily until they find employment.

"(But) there are strong doubts that they could find Samoan employers in time to sponsor them," the DFA said, quoting a report from the Philippine Embassy in New Zealand, which also covers Samoa.

The embassy had also alerted the department about a second group of Filipinos scheduled to go to Samoa, again for nonexistent vacancies. *Volt Contreras*

# Another ex-AFP exec charged with plunder

AN ANTIGRAFT advocacy group composed of volunteer lawyers filed Friday a plunder complaint with the Ombudsman against Lt. Gen. Jacinto C. Ligot (ret.), former Armed Forces of the Philippines comptroller.

Operation Clean Hands (OCH) lawyers led by former Solicitor General Francisco Chavez, Mario Ongkiko and Wilfredo Garrido charged Ligot with illegally amassing P66,959,725.60, way over the P50-million minimum amount for plunder charges under Republic Act No. 7080 as amended by RA 7659.

Last month, the OCH filed plunder charges against Maj. Gen. Carlos F. Garcia (ret.), Ligot's successor. A few days after the OCH filed its complaint, the Ombudsman charged Garcia with plunder before the Sandiganbayan.

Garcia is undergoing court-martial on two counts in connection with his own alleged ill-gotten wealth.

In their complaint, the OCH lawyers attached documentary evidence to show that "the sequential acquisition by Ligot of assets in the Philippines and abroad over a period of time covered by his stint as a public officer establishes a pattern of overt or criminal acts evidentiary of his unlawful scheme to plunder and loot government money or monies derived from sources prohibited by law."

Ligot's illegally amassed assets identified by the OCH included a poultry farm in Malaybalay, Bukidnon, valued at P5 million; nine hectares of corn lands also in Malaybalay worth P166,035.60; a condominium at Essensa East Forbes in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City, worth between P22-26 million; a house in Buena Park, California, valued at $183,158 or P10 million, and another house in Anaheim, California, worth $502,990 or P27.7 million.

# Cops ready for transport strike

**By Margaux C. Ortiz**

THE POLICE yesterday assured the riding public of transportation and protection should today's nationwide transport strike push through.

National Capital Region Police Office chief Deputy Director General Avelino Razon Jr. said that aside from NCRPO personnel, contingency forces from Region III, the Special Action Force and the NCR Command would be placed on full alert in Metro Manila during the strike.

Razon said trucks and buses would be deployed to ferry stranded commuters affected by the strike which will be led by the Philippine Confederation of Drivers and Operators-Alliance of Concerned Transport Organizations (PCDO-ACTO), Federation of Jeepney Operators and Drivers Associations of the Philippines (Fejodap) and Pinagisang Samahan ng mga Tsuper at Operators Nationwide (Piston).

The transport groups are staging the strike to press for a fare increase in view of the continued rise in domestic oil prices.

"We ask the commuters to be patient and calm because there would be sufficient transportation assets provided by the police," Razon said in a phone interview.

Razon also warned protesters to refrain from coercing other drivers to join the strike.

"They should not force the other drivers or put spikes on the road to sabotage those who opt to ply their routes," Razon said, adding that violators risked immediate arrest and detention.

In Cagayan de Oro City, leaders of two leading transport groups have forged an alliance to join today's nationwide transport strike.

The militant Solidarity Transport Alliance and the Transport Federation of Cagayan de Oro said that 95 percent of the transportion sector in Northern Mindanao would be paralyzed.

"This is the only way we could tell the government that enough is enough for the continuing oil price hike that has put us all in dire crisis," transport leader Armando Naul said.

In Davao City, groups affiliated with the Transport in Southern Mindanao for Solidarity, Independence and Nationalism (Transmision-Piston) will also join the strike.

Egmundo Yosores, secretary general of Transmision-Piston, said the transport strike will start at 3 a.m. and end at midnight.

*With a report from Grace Cantal-Albasin and Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Federal HARDWARE BUILDER'S CENTER
FUN TIME SALE
APRIL 6 TO 30, 2005 ONLY!

Camping Tent (2m x 1.6m) P1,350.00
Beach Umbrella (40") Before: P237.50 P212.75
Barbecue Grill Before: P475.00 P380.00
All Purpose Hang-Up Before: P699.25 P209.75 70% OFF
3-pc. Bathroom Set Before: P120.00 P60.00 50% OFF
Portable Hose Reel Before: P1,850.00 P925.00 50% OFF
Hedge Shears (9") Before: P899.00 P449.50 50% OFF
Mesh Carry Bag Before: P299.00 P149.50 50% OFF
3pc. Lunch Keeper Before: P251.90 P125.95 50% OFF

VISIT OUR SHOWROOMS AT FEDERAL HARDWARE MAKATI
TAMSONS ENTERPRISES, INC. GLADWIN APOLLO GREEN PEAKS BESTANK HYGICARE PHILIPPINES, INC.

*MAKATI Tel. 893-1654 • 893-1075 E.RODRIGUEZ Tel. 732-1900 *CUBAO Tel. 421-9250 *COMMONWEALTH Tel. 428-4844 *TAYTAY Tels. 284-2206 • 660-3442 *CAINTA Tel. 675-1030 *SUCAT Tel. 700-0773 ALABANG TOWN CENTER Tel. 807-0008 BACOOR, CAVITE Tel. (046) 870-2690 IMUS, CAVITE Tel. (046) 875-4040 DASMARIÑAS Tel. (046) 416-3743 MAKILING, CALAMBA Tel. (049) 245-0607 *BIÑAN Tel. (049) 839-2009 *BOCAUE Tel. (044) 692-0719 *ANGELES Tel. (045) 888-4100 MABALACAT Tel. (045) 893-3872 TARLAC (045) 611-0328
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
ALSO AVAILABLE AT CERAMIC PLAZA BRANCHES
*MUÑOZ 372-4087 • 372-1593 PASIG 643-3408 • 643-7728
*OPEN MONDAYS TO SUNDAYS 8:30AM TO 7:30PM
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1871 Series of 2005

Get Sexy, Lovelier Legs This Summer!

Bothered by your large legs, plump thighs and heavy hips? Marie France can slim them down easily! We can re-shape your thick legs and reduce "saddle bags" in your hips. No need for surgery or strenuous exercise to get that sexy leggy look!

Flaunt sexier, lovelier legs this summer!
Call Marie France today for our FREE slimming starter program.

FREE Leg-Shaping Starter Program
upon enrollment
from April 18-23, 2005 only!
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1881, Series of 2005

Marie France Bodyline
www.mariefrance.com.ph
CALL 894-BODY (2639)
MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA • TEL: 961-2981 CEBU • TEL: 233-7637

# World awaits …

From page A1

Indications are that the prelates, who have been meeting frequently since the Pope's death on April 2, are still unclear about the rules, contained in the Apostolic Constitution.

Navarro-Valls told reporters the Vatican was confident an elaborate, high-tech security clampdown around the conclave area would keep the proceedings secret.

Smoke signals above the Sistine Chapel are expected at around noon in Rome (6 p.m., Manila time) and 7 p.m. (1 a.m., in Manila) each voting day, Navarro-Valls said.

He said the times for the smoke signals were "purely approximate" and reiterated that when a new pope has been chosen the bells of St. Peter's Basilica would ring out to accompany the traditional white smoke so there would be no confusion.

## Indecisive vote

Navarro-Valls said the timetable was based on the cardinals holding two ballots in the morning and two in the afternoon, and burning the ballot papers at the end of each round of two votes. Black smoke signals an indecisive vote.

At the start of the conclave, the 115 cardinals will file into the chapel and swear an oath of secrecy and fidelity to the regulations governing the centuries-old election ritual.

They will decide then whether to hold a first ballot tonight or wait until Tuesday morning.

If they had not chosen a new pope in three days, they could pause for up to a day.

If after 33 or 34 ballots there is still no decision, the cardinals can decide to shift to a system of absolute majority vote or to hold a run-off vote between the two leading candidates, Navarro-Valls said.

After the first day, the cardinals will start each day of the conclave with a 7:30 a.m. (1:30 p.m., Manila time) Mass at Saint Martha's Residence, the hotel within the Vatican grounds where they are to be housed.

Franciscan priest Raniero Cantalamessa—a long-time preacher to the papal household—warned the cardinals in a previous meditation last week: "Don't be ambitious" or be tempted to "promote yourselves," or the conclave will descend into chaos.

The cardinals refused to speculate on the vote.

## Holy Spirit

"People think that we are going to vote like in an election. But this is something completely different. We are going to listen to the Lord and listen to the Holy Spirit," said Cardinal Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga of Honduras.

In the end, it will all boil down to two words, bellowed from a balcony of St. Peter's Basilica to an expectant crowd on the Vatican square below: "Habemus papam!" (We have a pope!).

That is the phrase that 1.1 billion Roman Catholics have been waiting to hear to fill the void left by the late John Paul II.

Around 40 to 45 minutes later, the new pope will make his first appearance from the balcony on the facade of St. Peter's.

In the run-up to the historic vote, speculation has centered on arch-ideologue Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, suggesting the German prelate might head initial balloting.

Many Vatican watchers, however, doubt Ratzinger would be able to gain the two-thirds majority needed to become the 264th successor to the first pope, St. Peter.

That could leave the field open to a less divisive candidate. *AFP, Reuters*

# List of possible …

From page A1

lifestyle, he refuses to occupy the sumptuous official archbishop's residence, preferring a simple apartment where he lives with an old bishop and usually cooks dinner.

Bergoglio struggled to prevent the Jesuits from being drawn into the liberation theology movement.

- **Dario Castrillon Hoyos** (Colombian), born July 4, 1929.

Aged 75, he is one of the leading candidates from Latin America because he has the broadest range of experience and is in the right age bracket.

He is a conservative favorite.

But his reticence to confront the US pedophile priests scandal, and his strong opposition to Latin American liberation theology makes him unpopular with Catholic progressives.

- **Godfried Danneels** (Belgian), born June 4, 1933.

The 71-year-old archbishop of Brussels is an outspoken preacher who ranks as a main moderate-to-progressive contender for the papacy.

A vote for him would be a vote for changes in the way the Catholic Church is governed.

- **Ivan Dias** (Indian), born April 14, 1936.

Known to toe the line of the late Pope John Paul II on homosexuality, birth control and the role of missionaries, he is among the top contenders in the race to be the next pope.

Dias is said to wield considerable influence in the Vatican, so much so, according to some reports, that some liberal priests fear him.

He is said to frown on priests with leftist tendencies.

- **Claudio Hummes** (Brazilian), born Aug. 8, 1934.

The 70-year-old Franciscan archbishop of Sao Paolo could once have been considered a revolutionary prelate. Now he is seen as a moderate and maybe even a conservative.

The late Pope chose Hummes as archbishop of Sao Paolo because he wanted someone who would defend the poor while restoring some moderate theological thinking to Brazil, a home of liberation theology.

- **Nicolas de Jesus Lopez Rodriguez** (Dominican), born Oct. 31, 1936.

At 68, he has emerged as one of the major players in the Church in Latin America.

Lopez Rodriguez is considered a doctrinal conservative and a staunch opponent of liberation theology, which has tried to combine elements of the Gospel with Marxism.

- **Jose da Cruz Policarpo** (Portuguese), born Feb. 26, 1936.

This 69-year-old theological moderate has impressed other cardinals in Europe and Latin America.

Policarpo has stood out as a moderate in an increasingly conservative Church.

- **Joseph Ratzinger** (German), born April 16, 1927.

There was never doubt that Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, the Vatican's hard-line defender of the faith, would have a strong hand in selecting the next pope.

One bit of wisdom has emerged in the Italian press: that Ratzinger has up to 50 votes among the 115 elector cardinals, or at least that is the strength his supporters claim. That is short of the two-thirds, or 77 votes, needed in the early stages of voting.

- **Giovanni Battista Re** (Italian), born Jan. 30, 1934.

At 71, he may know the inner workings of the Vatican better than anyone else. This could either hurt or help him during a conclave to elect the next pope.

Cardinals might be looking for an ace administrator to stay at home and take care of business following the globetrotting papacy of John Paul II.

- **Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga** (Honduran), born Dec. 29, 1942.

At 62, he is a rising star in the Church. While youth may be an asset for many jobs, it can be a handicap in getting elected pope.

Since popes usually rule for life, not everyone in the Church thinks the job should be given to someone who could hold it for 30 years or more.

Rodriguez Maradiaga believes the real solution to the problems of the developing world is social justice.

- **Christoph Schoenborn** (Austrian), born Jan. 22, 1945.

The 60-year-old archbishop of Vienna has everything going for him as a candidate for the next papacy—except perhaps his age.

He is considered a man of broad intellectual capacity, an accomplished theologian, an expert in philosophy and psychology and a deeply religious man.

But few want a papacy that could conceivably last three decades or more.

- **Angelo Scola** (Italian), born Nov. 7, 1941.

The 63-year-old Cardinal of Venice likes poetry and books as well as the Internet.

"As a boy, I once counted eight or nine shades of grey that an artist can paint on a landscape of a lake," he once said.

Scola ranks as an open-minded conservative.

- **Angelo Sodano** (Italian), born Nov. 23, 1927.

As Vatican secretary of state for 14 years, Sodano is at the center of the political intrigue at the Holy See and has made many enemies over the years—a possible liability.

A theological conservative, Sodano would be unlikely to change any key teachings on matters such as artificial birth control or married priests.

- **Dionigi Tettamanzi** (Italian), born March 14, 1934.

The 71-year-old cardinal-archbishop of Milan is high on the list of Italian candidates to succeed John Paul II.

An intellectual and prolific writer who helped Pope John Paul II draft some of his encyclicals, the "little Lombard" has a lot of friends and few enemies.

One name has also come up as an "outsider," that of Carlo Maria Martini. The 78-year-old retired archbishop of Milan is a renowned Jesuit theologian on the liberal side of the aisle. *Reuters, AFP*

Where you find the best.

JOB Market
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

WOW!™
MAGIC SING
PREMIUM
Videoke Anytime, Anywhere!
WOW talaga!
NEW FREEBIE!
Video Extension Cable
Connect your TV & Sound System to your WOW! Magic Sing Premium HASSLE-FREE!

2005
MAGICSING II
Sing through the Philippines!
WOW EXCLUSIVE FREEBIES!
55 built-in WOW PHILIPPINES Picture Backgrounds
Full-color Picture Guide
BIYAHE Tayo! VCD for every purchase of Duet Mic & Tagalog Song Chips
BIYAHE Tayo! BONUS SONG!
ALL ORIGINAL! All Imported From Korea!
Made in Korea by: ET ENTERTECH Co. Ltd.
WOW 2005 EDITION

The No.1 Videoke Microphone
- Connects directly to TV
- Contains Built-in songs
- Best Sound & Picture Quality
- Fully upgradeable!
- 1 Year Warranty & Lifetime Service
- ALL ORIGINAL & ALL IMPORTED FROM KOREA

NEW FEATURES!
- Real Time Scoring
- Amateur, Pro or Statr Singer Scoring Levels
- Song Section Repeat
- Voice Change Style (Male or Female)
- Adjustable Lyric Display
- First Lyric Line Display-on-Browse

Tourism Partners:
I ♥ PHILIPPINES
BIYAHE Tayo!
Available Nationwide at:
AstroVision ABENSON odyssey MUSIC & VIDEO Automatic CENTRE Avid BRANDS! TOWER RECORDS PUREGOLD PRICE CLUB, INC.
ASTROPLUS WESTERN MUSIC VIDEO Home & Office Center AVSurfer M TIONGSAN HARRISON
AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING APPLIANCE, AUDIO, VIDEO & ELECTRONIC STORES NATIONWIDE.
©Philippine Copyright 2005 by In-A-Jiffy Enterprises
Exclusively Distributed by: in-a-jiffy & G2K Corporation
Tel Nos.: 722-5527 / 405-0178

ALTERNATIVE LONG-TERM TREATMENT OF HEART DISEASES, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE AND HIGH CHOLESTEROL
Simvastatin
Losartan
Losartan+HCTZ
Nifedipine
Diltiazem
Imidapril
Imidapril+HCTZ
Atenolol
PHARMACOECONOMICS is A Healthy Idea
B.A.S.I.C.
Bioequivalence & Affordability Sustain Intervention & Compliance
Ask your doctor about it.
* These drugs are classified by BFAD as prescription drugs and may be bought only with a doctor's prescription.
CALL Free of Charge: 1-800-10-6-HEALTH (432584) · Direct Line: 637-4890

# Protestant, Catholic bishops divided on tax

By Christian V. Esguerra

A PROTESTANT bishop is opposed to imposing taxes on the revenues of religious organizations, but a Catholic bishop and a Muslim leader support it.

"I'm against it," Bishop Efraim Tendero, head of the Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, told the INQUIRER.

"Even if a religious organization engages in a revenue-raising activity, it should not be taxed as long as the money goes to the mission of the Church," he said.

He was reacting to the announcement of the Bureau of Internal Revenue that it was sifting through the financial records of churches and religious groups to find out if they had been paying taxes.

Tendero said imposing taxes on churches would run counter to the principle of the separation of Church and State.

It's a different story if revenues were spent for personal use, he said.

Tendero said the BIR campaign might have been triggered by suspicions that some religious organizations were earning hefty sums because they were tax exempt.

## No problem

Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz said he had no problem with the government poring over Church financial records.

"I have no quarrel with that," he said in an interview. "We're also bound by the laws on taxation because we also benefit from government services. We also get service from the police and the fire department," he said.

Cruz said Church policy, in fact, places its organizations under the civil law of the place where they operate.

But the government must know the difference between taxable and nontaxable incomes before it conducts its drive against supposed tax cheats in the Catholic Church and other religious organizations, he said.

"This is not hard to know. It is the fault of the government when it does not collect correct taxes from taxable income or wrongly demands taxes from exempt revenues," Cruz said in a statement.

In his archdiocese, Cruz said the Church was paying regular income taxes on the revenues from pieces of property leased to several business establishments.

But he said the BIR might encounter a problem if it imposed blanket taxation on purported business transactions such as the sale of rosaries and other religious items, he said.

"Sometimes, what we earn here goes straight to charity," he said. "If we suddenly impose taxes on these transactions, it's the people benefiting from these charity works who will suffer."

## High time

Taha Basman, president of the Philippine Islamic Council and the Center for Moderate Muslims, said it was "high time" that the government imposed taxes on religious organizations.

"Why only now?" he asked. "Muslims had long been not exempt from paying taxes yet the government is thinking of collecting from other religious groups just now. It's really unfair."

While mosques are spared from taxes, he said they could barely function because religious items, particularly copies of the Koran, shipped from abroad could not be released from the Bureau of Customs unless their owners shelled out the corresponding fees.

Basman said some people were indeed masquerading as church groups to avail themselves of the exemption.

"On our part, I can guarantee the government that our finances are above-board," said Tendero, whose group includes some 20,000 evangelical organizations nationwide.

"We will not tolerate any abuses involving our finances. All donations and tithes go solely to our religious ministries," he said. *With a report from Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

www.nokia.com.ph

NOKIA
CONNECTING PEOPLE

Experience the Widescreen Advantage

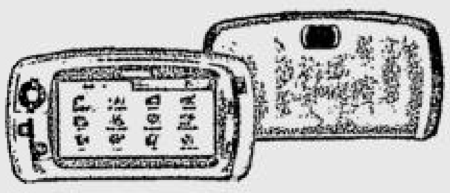
NOKIA
Cruising with my honey.

On vacation with my new Nokia 7710

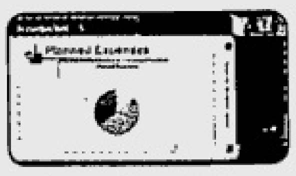
During my long break, I brought my new Nokia 7710 along. Snapped lots of pictures of me and my honey which I sent to friends via MMS. Approved the campaign of our star client– a cinch as I could review the latest Powerpoint on e-mail. Sent Daddy a handwritten personalized birthday card with my own artistic touch. Won a vacation package from a radio station. Got my usual dose of reality shows. Listened to my new song playlist. Cleared my Yahoo mailbox. Shopped for rare stuff on E-bay.

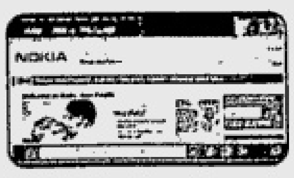
On vacation without my new Nokia 7710

Had piñacoladas.

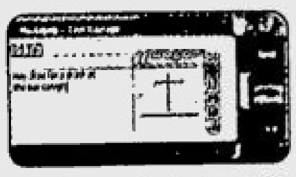


NOKIA 7710
See More. Hear More. Do More.


Powerpoint and Adobe Presentation Viewer


HTML/xHTML, Full-screen, Web-optimized Display

Integrated 1 Megapixel Camera and Video Recorder with 2x digital zoom


Touchscreen Navigation with On-screen Keymat

Sketch Application for Advanced Image Editing

Available at the following Nokia Stores and Professional Centers:

Globotel
All Branches
Tel # 888-0104

Mobile Experts
All Branches
Tel # 812-8389

Memo Express
All Branches
Tel # 243-9461 to 64

Comwork's
Antipolo St.,
Lipa City

Comwork's
Ground Floor, Fiesta Mall
Lipa, Batangas City

VIEWERS
3rd Level, SM City,
Lucena, Quezon

QSL Electronics
Perez Blvd. cor. Rizal St.,
Dagupan City

W.C.C.
Unit 8, Quezon Ave., CKC Arcade,
San Fernando, La Union

Pines Multi Telecom Shop
# 72 Session Road,
Baguio City

Tiongsan
Tiongsan Mall
Baguio City

MDS
9 Quezon Avenue, Vigan City,
Ilocos Sur

Make sure your new Nokia Mobile Phone comes with original enhancements and is protected by a 12 month warranty on parts and services from Nokia Care. Buy only at authorized Nokia outlets. For inquiries, call the Nokia Careline at (02) 886-1234.

Copyright © 2005 Nokia. All rights reserved. Nokia and Nokia Connecting People are registered trademarks of Nokia Corporation.

SUMMER FUN. COMPLETE WORKSHOPS.

this Summer make it Happen!

JOIN A JOHN ROBERT POWERS SUMMER WORKSHOP JUST FOR KIDS. TEENS. GRADS.

Special Age Group Workshops in Personality Development, Acting, Modeling, Etiquette, and Grooming. Morning and afternoon Sessions to fit your schedule. Enroll Now and finish before your regular school classes begin. Earn the Worldwide John Robert Powers International Certificate. MAKE THIS SUMMER THE BEST EVER! HAVE FUN AND GET THE LIFETIME BENEFITS OF A WORKSHOP AT JOHN ROBERT POWERS. Enroll early for choice schedules.

CALL NOW!
892 9511

John Robert Powers
www.johnrobertpowers.com
Casmer Building, 195 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati
Guarded Parking Nearby

START TODAY. FINISH BEFORE YOUR REGULAR CLASSES BEGIN.

LAST DAY TODAY!
UNBEATABLE OFFERS! UNPARALLELED DEALS!
Anson EMPORIUM
APPLIANCE INSTALLMENT SHOWDOWN
APRIL 8-18, 2005
GLORIETTA ACTIVITY CENTER
SONY • SAMSUNG • JVC • PANASONIC • PHILIPS • PIONEER • SHARP • LA GERMANIA • FISHER AND PAYKEL • WHIRLPOOL • CARRIER • CONDURA • KELVINATOR • FEDDERS/KOPPEL • GE/ARISTON • HITACHI • KOLIN • CHANGHONG • MIT-AIR • SANYO • CASIOTONE • 3D • FOCUS GLOBAL • SANSUI • POLYTRON • NEXT BASE • KODAK • NOKIA • CANON • AUDIOVOX • MANILA IMPERIAL MOTOR SALES • MAGIC SING • GAMELORD FUKUDA • GREEN MAR COMPUTERS • INFINITE QUALITY DESIGN • MICRO WAREHOUSE/IPod
FAMILY HOME, CLASSIC HOME AND KIDS HOME BED LINENS COLLECTION
BPI CREDIT CARDS • CITIBANK PAYLITE • UNIONBANK VISA • EQUITABLE CARDS • STANDARD CHARTERED • HSBC • METROBANK • BANKARD MY DREAM JCB • DINERS CLUB & SECURITY BANK MASTER CARD
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1177 Series of 2005
Anson EMPORIUM
WE BEAT ANYBODY'S PRICE!
0% INTEREST PROMO ALSO AVAILABLE IN ALL OUR BRANCHES AT:
ANSON BUILDING, AYALA CENTER A. ARNAIZ ST., MAKATI CITY
TEL. NOS.: 843-5046 / 892-2208 / 892-1392
3RD FLOOR THE LANDMARK
TEL. NOS.: 810-9990 LOC. 2105, 2107 / 819-1513-14 / 819-1364 / 817-0241
ROBINSONS GALLERIA EDSA NODE LEVEL-3
TEL. NOS.: 632-8479 / 632-8482-85
600 SALAZAR ST., BINONDO, MANILA
TEL. NOS.: 243-2097 / 2432101 / 243-2092
ALABANG TOWN CENTER MADRIGAL AVE., (Beside BPI)
TEL. NOS.: 772-3680-86
FOR YOUR CORPORATE NEEDS,
CALL:
TEL. NOS.: 845-3006-08 / 892-1357 / Fax: 892-1398
819-0701 / 819-1364 / 817-0241 OR 16 Fax: 819-0702

# Senate VAT bill to hurt profitable firms, says solon

From page A1

the Senate was pushing these provisions to avoid increasing the VAT rate from 10 percent to 12 percent as proposed in the House version.

Salceda, who is part of the 25-member House panel in the bicameral conference committee, said that while the three provisions would raise P48 billion of the P60 billion expected from the VAT reforms, "a tax bill should not only be good but also fundamentally sound."

"While going for revenues and making the corporate rich do their share, sound tax policies must still guide us in the selection. To raise revenues, we must be careful not to shrink the revenue base. The no-pass through provision and the credit input tax would exactly do that—drive away the activity we seek to tax which would then result in less revenues," he said.

## Less controversial

Whether Congress will adopt a single or a multiple rate will be the core of debate when some senators and members of the House of Representatives meet to reconcile their conflicting versions of the VAT bill at the start of the bicameral conference.

The lawmakers decided to tackle a less controversial issue on the first day, and deferred debate on contentious ones, such as whether to raise the current VAT rate or the corporate income tax, for the latter part of the bicameral conference.

This strategy, they said, would speed up the passage of the measure, which the government is banking on to raise at least P60 billion to head off a fiscal crisis.

## Single rate

Sen. Ralph Recto, head of the nine-member Senate panel in the bicameral conference committee, was optimistic that his colleagues and their counterparts from the House of Representatives would eventually agree on a single rate "whether 10, 11 or 12 percent."

"It should not be that hard to agree on a single rate," he said in a phone interview, pointing out that a single VAT rate is easier for taxpayers to comply with and the Bureau of Internal Revenue to administer.

The Senate version seeks to retain the 10-percent VAT rate, lift the exemptions of power and petroleum sectors as well as domestic airlines and shipping companies, and raise the corporate income tax from 32 percent to 35 percent.

The House of Representatives passed two VAT-related bills, one raising the rate from 10 percent to 12 percent and the other imposing a multi-tiered rate on previously exempt sectors.

## Preparatory meeting

Sen. Richard Gordon, a member of the Senate panel, said the agenda for the first day of the bicameral conference was reached during a preparatory meeting at the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel on Friday.

"We're moving ahead with the easier parts first [so we can make some progress]," he said in an interview.

Also on the agenda of the bicameral conference committee is the issue of whether to impose the VAT on previously exempt sectors, according to Recto.

Despite major differences in their versions, both panels will be sitting across the table today with an encouraging thought: the gap in the estimated revenue yields of the Senate and House versions isn't that huge.

## P60 billion

At last Friday's meeting, the Department of Finance presented a study showing that the Senate bill would generate P85 billion and its House counterpart, P98.4 billion at a 100-percent collection efficiency rate, according to Recto.

"We looked at the revenue implications of both versions based on DOF estimates. And we realized that the revenue implications are not too different," he said. "So whatever bill we can come up with will generate P60 billion in VAT revenues."

Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima, who attended Friday's pre-bicam meeting, said the government wanted a VAT bill that would raise P60 billion or more in revenues "so that we can consolidate our fiscal position."

Recto, sponsor of the bill, said that the Senate version could raise between P60 billion and P75 billion, while Rep. Jesli Lapus, head of the House panel, said the lower chamber's version could generate between P68 billion and P98 billion.

"Still, we're asking the DOF to come up with accurate calculations of the revenue yields under the Recto and Lapus bills," Gordon said.

## Save difficult issues for last

In Friday's meeting, the legislators, however, agreed to save discussions on whether to raise the rate from 10 to 12 percent, to increase the corporate income tax from 32 percent to 35 percent and to include a no pass-through provision, for last.

Recto said it was easier to collect taxes under the Senate bill since these covered "few industry players with limited transactions." In contrast, under the House bill, "you will be collecting from thousands upon thousands of establishments monitoring thousands of transactions," he said.

In a statement, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. allayed public fears that lifting the exemption of the power sector would set off sharp increases in electric bills.

Pimentel pointed out that the Senate bill specified that the VAT levied on power generation, transmission and distribution companies should not be passed on to households.

Violations of this rule will be punishable by fines and imprisonment, he said.

THE ORIGINAL! MAGIC SING VIDEOKE MICROPHONE
HAVE AN XTREME VACATION WITH THE ORIGINAL!
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS!!
Manufactured by: ET ENTER TECH CO. LTD. (Korea)
Wherever you are, get your ORIGINAL MAGIC SING XTREME from these dealers NATIONWIDE
SM Appliance Center • SM Record bar • Duty Free Philippines Fiestamall • Ambassador Appliances, Inc. • Rustan's Department Store • PriceSmart • Anson Emporium • VideoCity • Shopwise • Radio City • Precision • Gillamac's • Gaisano South Group • White Gold Club • Metro • Gaisano Mall of Davao Mall of Gensan • Hotel Rembrandt • Crossings Department Store • Sound Dimension Audio Video Shop Park Square 1 • makro • Music Zone • Department Store • EMCOR • DEECO • Ocampo's • Conpinco • 5th Ave Electronic City • MDS Mike's Dept. Store • NIT Marketing • Magic Appliance Center • Imperial Appliance Plaza • Optimum Trader Currency Specialist
METRO MANILA DEALERS
QUIAPO / BINONDO Armstrong Electronics 733-2849 • Delta Appliances 533-4653 • AJD Electronics 736-3880 • JMD Electronics 736-3880 • Gemelric 314-8871 • Joy's Electronics 734-1819 • Hi-Mark Sales 736-1882 • Jems Appliances 703-1024 • Millennium Electronics 314-8508 • OK Electronic 733-9691 • Richland 734-3591 • Santech Electronics 734-1821 • W & M Marketing 735-4274 • Worldwide Audio & Video 241-3446 • MALATE / MAKATI / PARAÑAQUE / MUNTINLUPA A. Salonga 400-4492 • Image Video 525-1015 • Sohan Audio & Video Int'l 527-1171 • Phasetron Audio Systems 819-7372 • M@rs Trading 776-8526 • Alabang Marketing 533-4653
PROVINCIAL DEALERS
BAGUIO Rajat Electronics (074) 444-9340 • BATAAN Ocampo's Mega Store, Inc. Balanga (047) 237-2643, Dinalupihan • BICOL Multibrand (054) 473-7262 • CAVITE V. Divina Enterprises (046) 890-0399 • CEBU A. Salonga (032) 232-5378, M. Miranda (032) 262-3619 • DAVAO Funtronics (082) 227-0545 • ILOCOS NORTE Ricafort Trading (077) 770-3410 • LAOAG New India Dept. Store (077) 772 0879,(077) 772-0478 • Allied Marketing (077) 770-3257 • LAGUNA MSC Data Exchange (049) 562-7172 • OLONGAPO Ocampo's Olongapo, Inc. (047) 222-4444, (047) 223-3000, (047) 222-2548 • PANGASINAN Ricafort Trading (075) 522-7112 • PAMPANGA Downtown (045) 900-0225, Ocampo's Emporium (045) 963-0084, Ocampo's Jewelry (045) 888-2649 • S. COTABATO D' Sunata Record Bar General Santos (083) 553-5073, Koronadal (083) 228-3844 • TUGUEGARAO New Tuguegarao Bombay Bazaar (078) 844-2560, (078) 846-2259 • ZAMBALES Ocampo's Subic (047) 232-2930
Exclusively Distributed by: THE ASTRA GROUP, INC.
For wholesale & dealership inquiries, visit or contact us at:
G/F Richbelt Tower, 17 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel: (632) 72-MAGIC (62442) Fax: (632) 722-4057 www.astramagicsing.com

BDO UNIBANK **BANCO DE ORO**

# SuperLite Personal Loan

It's Flexible - use it for any personal need!
As low as 1.0%* add-on interest per month!
FREE Comprehensive Family Accident Insurance** of up to P300,000.00* (throughout the life of your loan!)
Plus! Lots of freebies and discounts!
FREE
FREE
BILLS

**BDO SuperLite Personal Loan** offers one of the lightest and most practical financial solution for your personal and immediate needs. You get –

- Guaranteed Low Rates
- Flexible Payment Terms – up to 36 months
- Fast Loan Processing
- Loan Amounts as much as P300,000
- Plus, you automatically earn rewards points under BDO's Rewards Program!

**BDO Superlite Personal Loan** – It's one of the lightest and easiest ways to get money for your needs.
Why wait! Apply now and get our **guaranteed low rates**!
Call **631-8000** or visit any of our 140 BDO branches today!

* For BDO depositors, BDO Auto Loan, BDO Home Loan and existing BDO Personal Loan customers subject to pre-qualifying criteria. Promo period from April 1 to June 30, 2005.

** Based on loan amount. Promo period from April 1 to August 31, 2005. Terms and conditions apply.

See fliers for details.
Initially available in Metro Manila, Laguna, Cavite, Bulacan, Rizal and Pampanga.

**BDO Consumer Lending Products:**
BDO Credit Cards • BDO Auto Loan • BDO Home Loan

*Simply Irresistible!*
*Use it for almost anything!*

We find ways

BDO BANCO DE ORO **Personal Loan**

Toll-free: 1-800-10-631-8000
www.bancodeoro.com.ph

GENERALI PILIPINAS AAK SM Appliance Center

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1797 Series of 2005

# Clash mars opening ...

From page A1

their ceasefire agreement.

The 64-member monitoring team, led by Malaysia with representatives from Brunei and Libya, is deployed in key cities of Mindanao to monitor the ceasefire agreement signed by the government and the MILF in July 2003.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu told the INQUIRER yesterday that government soldiers violated the ceasefire agreement when they trespassed into its perimeter defense on the outskirts of Barangay Upper Talayan in Talayan, Maguindanao, on April 15.

Kabalu said a 15-minute gun battle ensued, resulting in the death of five rebels and the wounding of five others.

"Two of our fighters remain missing as of press time. It's a violation of the ceasefire agreement because they did not inform us prior to the conduct of operation," Kabalu said.

Lt. Col. Franklin del Prado, spokesperson of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said the soldiers were running after suspected Abu Sayyaf bandits who had been sighted in the area.

But Kabalu said the alleged violation will not in any way affect the peace talks which starts today until April 20 in Malaysia, which has been brokering the negotiations.

In an interview Saturday, Kabalu mulled over the possibility of a compromise, saying it would be difficult to take control of regions where Christian migrants had settled over the years.

"Originally, we wanted the whole of Mindanao—Sulu, Tawi-Tawi and Palawan—but the reality is we no longer control all these areas," he said. "There could be a compromise that would give us control over Muslim-majority areas."

## Measuring success

Both sides will tackle the contentious issue of ancestral domain, which covers the cultural rights and property of ethnic Muslim tribes, management of natural resources and identifying territory.

"The resumption of the peace talks and reaching a formal peace settlement between the Philippine government (GRP) and the MILF are only parts of the whole Mindanao peace process. The measure of success, if and when an accord is reached, is in the efficient implementation on the ground," according to Saeed A. Daof, director general of the Center for the Promotion of Peace and Development in Mindanao.

"Many Christians are worried that the peace talks may result in a sell-out of their rights, privileges and opportunities as residents of Mindanao. Conversely, many Muslims are also worried about being left out, because the MILF negotiators are overwhelmingly represented by Maguindanaoans," he said.

## Sincerity on both sides

"Because the GRP and the MILF have interests to protect and objectives to pursue, sincerity is vital in forging a comprehensive agreement and in making the accord succeed," said Daof, former envoy emissary extraordinary and concurrent chair of the MILF economic development committee.

The MILF has long expressed its demand to have an independent Islamic state in Mindanao, while the government is steadfast in its objection to this demand.

"Although both sides are silent on what will be the outcome of this demand, let us hope that this contentious issue is finally resolved," Daof said.

## US influence

He acknowledged the importance of developing good relations with the United States because of that country's "far-reaching influence and capability to be of assistance in the development and reconstruction of Mindanao."

President Macapagal-Arroyo reportedly made representations with the US government not to pursue its plan to list the MILF as a terrorist organization.

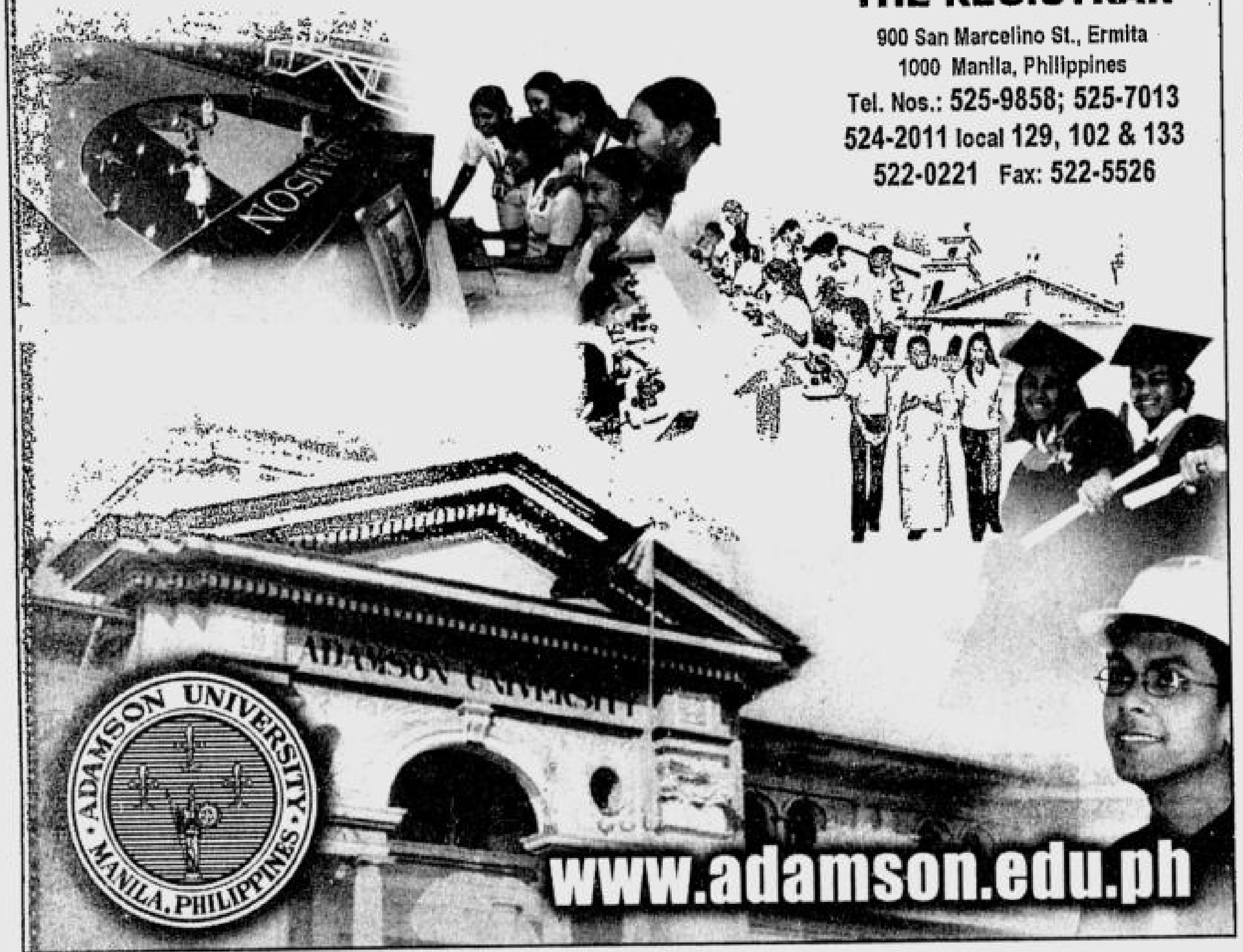
"If this is true and the United States still lists the MILF as a terrorist organization, then this is one of the imponderables that may set back the Mindanao peace process. Looking at the issue in another light, could it be possible that the United States is simply providing assistance in ensuring that the MILF come out clean, and make good its condemnation of terrorism and terrorists?" Daof said. *With a report from AFP*

ENROLLMENT NOW ON GOING!

Adamson University, the host for this year's
68th Season of the UAAP
offers you another year of high-caliber education with...

NO INCREASE
on TUITION and
MISCELLANEOUS FEES!!!

For inquiries, visit or call:
THE REGISTRAR
900 San Marcelino St., Ermita
1000 Manila, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: 525-9858; 525-7013
524-2011 local 129, 102 & 133
522-0221 Fax: 522-5526



MITSUBISHI
HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD.

SPLIT TYPE AIRCONDITIONERS

FLOOR STANDING TYPE
WALL MOUNTED
CEILING CASSETTE
CEILING SUSPENDED

Exclusively distributed by:
MIT-AIR, INC.
1531 Pedro Gil St., cor. Fabie St., Paco, Manila
Tel. Nos. 561-1101 to 04 • Fax Nos. 562-7246; 564-4275
E-mail Address: mit-air@pacific.net.ph

Available at the following:

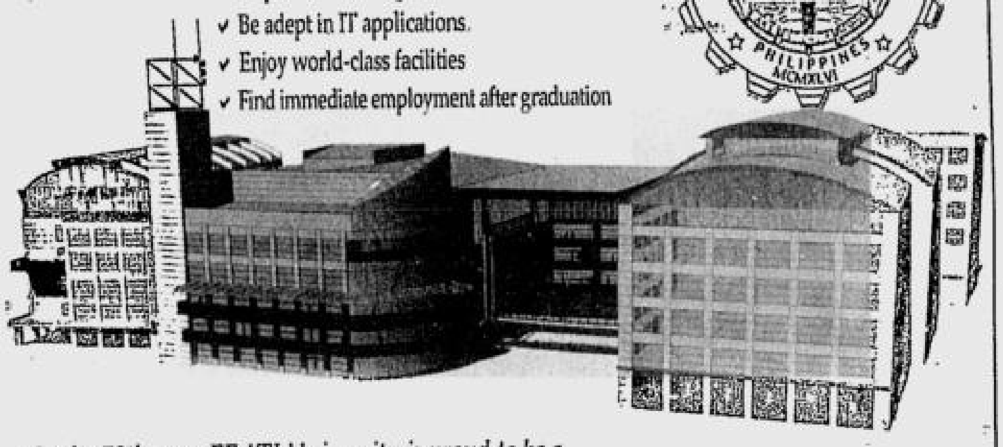
Metro Manila Appliance Stores
• Western Marketing Corp. • Anson's Emporium • Automatic Center • Abenson, Inc. • Fair & Square Emporium • Welcome Home Appliance Corp. • Ambassador Appliances, Inc. • Worldwide Electronics • Zoom Appliance Corp. • Cosmopolitan Appliance Center • Panason Marketing Inc.

Provincial Appliance Stores
• Saver's Mart • Ocampo's Appliance • Northern Tarlac Appliance

Dealer / Contractors
• Zephyr Engineering • Air Temp Technologists • Sly Asia International Trading Corp. • TDS Air Conditioning, Inc. • TCU Air Conditioning • Power Aire • Metro North Air Conditioning Sales & Services

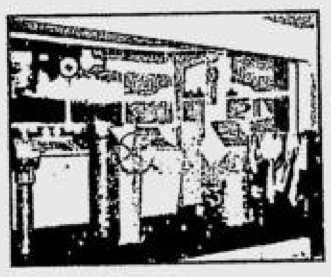
FEATI prepares you for a global future

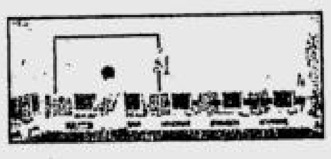
✓ Be proficient in English—call center-ready
✓ Be adept in IT applications.
✓ Enjoy world-class facilities
✓ Find immediate employment after graduation



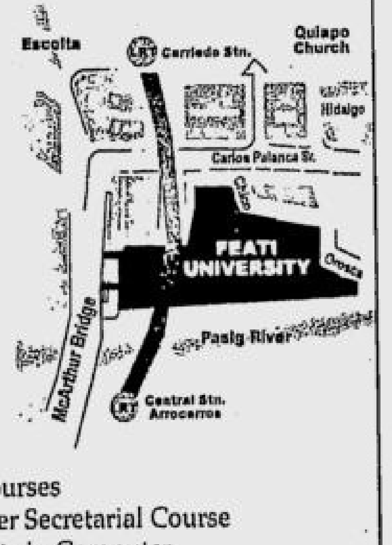
*On its 59th year, FEATI University is proud to be a leading school, producing achievers in the fields of Aeronautics, Marine Transportation, Engineering and Technology.*

- *Energized curriculum meets 21st century requisites.*
- *GradS Prep program ensures that excellent graduates will find immediate employment.*





50% Tuition fee discount for the first 500 Freshmen enrollees between April 4 to May 4, 2005 for all courses.



COURSES OFFERED:

College of Engineering
College of Maritime Education
College of Architecture and Fine Arts
College of Business
College of Arts, Sciences and Education
CERTIFICATE/ SHORT COURSE
TESDA-Accredited Highly Skilled
Occupational Courses
Electrical Engineering
Certificate Courses
Information Technology Short Courses

Short Courses
Computer Secretarial Course
Certificate in Computer
Commercial Science

(Under CHED Application)
Bachelor of Science in
Customs Administration

FEATI College Admission Test (FCAT)
Admission is on-going.
Classes start June 13, 2005
Contact Information:
733 8321 to 25 / 736 7450 / 736 7441 / 0920 2601184
or visit www.featl.edu.ph or e-mail: info@featl.edu.ph

# GMA to visit Sino iron ore project

PARACALE, Camarines Norte—President Macapagal-Arroyo will visit a $30-million iron mining project put up by Chinese investors here.

Camarines Norte Gov. Jesus O. Typoco Jr. said the President will meet with representatives of the Chinese investors at 10 a.m. today.

Typoco said the project is being undertaken by Konka Fulim Mining and Development Corp. (KFMDC) in joint venture with Etching Iron and Steel Ltd. and Industrial Co. Ltd.

He identified the representatives as Shen Ming Jie of Etching Iron, Xu Kuo Sheng and Shenzhen Zhaoheng of Industrial Co. Ltd., and Alexander Fu and Howard Ko of KFMDC.

The project was finalized in September last year during Ms Arroyo's state visit to Beijing, China, where she witnessed the signing of the joint venture agreement among KFMDC, Echeng Iron and Steel Co. Ltd. and Industrial Co. Ltd.

The President, Typoco and the Chinese investors will conduct an ocular inspection of the mining site and, at the same time, assess the status of the project which is located at a 30-hectare mining site in barangays Pinagbirayan and Dagang in this town.

Typoco said the mining firm has completed the construction of all necessary infrastructure and installed the machinery and equipment needed for its commercial operation.

The project is expected to produce at least 200,000 metric tons of processed iron ore.

Typoco said Paracale's iron has been found to be of high quality.
*Michael B. Jaucian, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

BETTER HERBS LEIZENZI

330mg Leizenzi Mushroom Extract Capsule Herbal Food Supplement

Glutamic Acid, Vit.B Complex and GABA are the components that work together in regulating the sleeping pattern, & in promoting relaxation for a rejuvenating quality sleep at night NATURALLY!

- Insomnia
- Stress
- Anxiety
- Depression

NO MORE SLEEPLESS NIGHTS!

Available at Mercury Drug, Manson Drug, Watsons, Emmaflor Drug & Other Leading Drug Stores Nationwide.
For Info, call 721 4376, 723 4376, Text (0918) 934 9347

*Formerly Better Sleep Leizenzi
BFAD Reg. No. FR45827

Breezy 300

INNOVATIVE BUILD FOR THE FUTURE

SUNRISE MEDICAL
www.sunrisemedical.com
U.S.A.

- bi-directional footrests and leg rests
- easy grip wheel lock
- smudge-proof finish
- puncture-resistant tires
- new cross brace for increased rigidity
- new brake with lighter clamps
- aluminum frame 13.5 kg. body for easy transport

ELEVATING FOOTREST. OPTIONAL

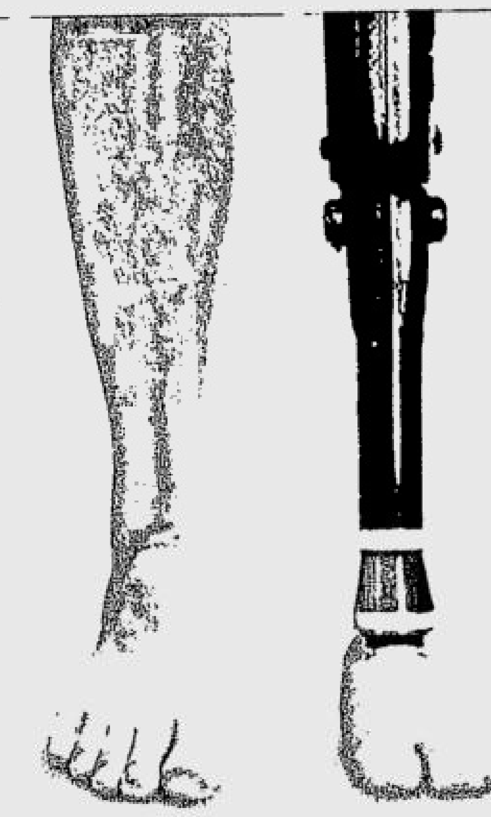
Also available Breezy 200
- bi-directional footrests and leg rests
- easy grip wheel lock
- smudge-proof finish
- puncture-resistant tires
- light steel material

Visit Our Showroom at the 2nd floor, Mercury Drug Glorietta 3, Makati City & EDSA Shangri-La Plaza

Exclusively Distributed by:
medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., cor Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels 631-1715 • 631-9385 • 637-0504
Fax: (0632) 631-7869
E-mail: mpdcen@info.com

| MANILA | PASIG | LIPA |
|---|---|---|
| 711-8374 | 631-1715 | (043) 757-2051 |
| PAMPANGA | PANGASINAN | |
| (045) 961-7892 | (070) 568-7390 | |
| CEBU | DAVAO | ILOILO |
| (032) 254-2367 | (082) 222-4407 | (033) 320-1413 |

mercury drug



THERE'S HOPE FOR DIABETICS.
COGENT DB+

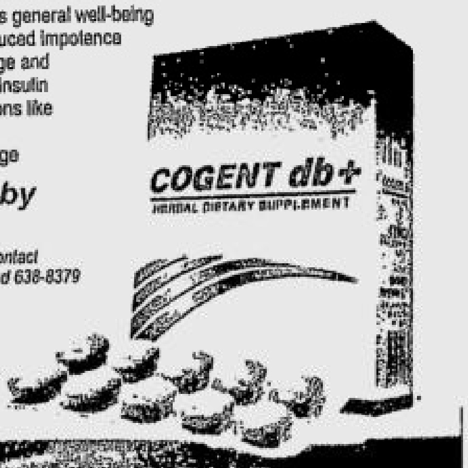
The threat of gangrene and amputation is a serious danger that diabetics face everyday. Now, they can rest easier as Cogent db+, with its nine *Ayurvedic* medicinal plants, effectively addresses such complications while helping to provide the following benefits:

- Strengthens the body to withstand Diabetes-associated infections
- Lowers elevated blood glucose, triglycerides, and cholesterol levels
- Helps to reverse cell death and hyperglycemia-related tissue damage
- Prevents and fights the harmful effects of free radicals
- Checks the blockage of blood vessels
- Sustains energy and promotes general well-being
- Helps in healing Diabetes-induced impotence
- Repairs pancreatic cell damage and enhances tissue response to insulin
- Controls long-term complications like blindness, kidney disease, renal failure, and nerve damage

*Recommended by most doctors.*

*For further information, please contact tel. nos.: 638-8573; 631-9863; and 638-8379*
*Email: cogent@davenben.com*
*Website: www.davenben.com*

Available at mercury drug stores and other leading drugstores nationwide.


COGENT db+
HERBAL DIETARY SUPPLEMENT

AN HERBAL SUPPLEMENT FOR DIABETIC CARE.

BPI EXPRESS CREDIT

Life-saving cars.
From your life-enhancing credit card.

BPI Express Credit Cards, together with VOLVO, bring you prizes that value your life.

BPI Express Credit

Charge your purchases to your BPI Express Credit Card now! Call 683-0008 or email to bpi.lifestyle@1isa.com to join!

The BPI VOLVO Lifestyle Promo

**BPI Express Credit: Classic/Burgundy, Blue MasterCard, Gold MasterCard, Edge and Mini Edge**

Every ₱500 single purchase gives you one raffle entry. To join, register your purchases by calling the promo hotline: 683-0008 for Metro Manila callers; 1-800-10-683-0008 for callers outside Metro Manila.

You can also register your purchases through email: bpi.lifestyle@1isa.com. Just email the following purchase information as they appear in your charge slip: (1) 16-digit BPI Express Credit card number (2) transaction amount, including centavos (3) transaction date: mm/dd/yy (4) transaction time: hh/mm.

**Petron-BPI Express Credit**

Every ₱500 Petron fuel purchase in participating Petron stations gives you one raffle coupon. To join, fill up the coupon and drop in drop boxes at those stations.

VOLVO V50 Sports Wagon. Prize for BPI Express Credit Classic/Burgundy or BPI Express Credit Blue MasterCard

VOLVO S80 Executive Sedan. Prize for BPI Express Credit Gold MasterCard

NEW* VOLVO S40 Sports Sedan. Prize for BPI Express Credit Edge and Mini Edge*
*Approved by DTI-NCR

VOLVO XC90 SUV. Prize for Petron-BPI Express Credit

For BPI Express Credit: Classic/Burgundy, Blue MasterCard, Gold MasterCard, Edge and Mini Edge. promo period is from November 15, 2004 to April 30, 2005. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3121, Series of 2004.

For Petron-BPI Express Credit. promo period is from October 21, 2004 to April 30, 2005. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3531, Series of 2004.

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership

Approved applications during the promo period will also earn raffle entries. For application and inquiries, call BPI Express Phone 89-100, visit any BPI or BPI Family Bank branch or Express Banking Center or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com. Actual unit may vary from photo.

VOLVO
for life

SWEET DEALS FROM SINGAPORE AIRLINES

SINGAPORE*
US$ 169

| AUSTRALIA* | USA/CANADA* | EUROPE* |
|---|---|---|
| US$ 528 | US$ 798 | US$ 898 |

Experience premium service at great value to these spectacular destinations, with a minimum of two persons to travel. For more sweet deals to other destinations contact your travel agent today or visit us at **www.singaporeair.com/ph**

A great way to fly
SINGAPORE AIRLINES
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

*SINGAPORE: Valid for instant purchase until 30 April. Valid for departures until 31 May 2005. Restricted to SQ75 out of Manila. Not eligible for mileage accrual. Other terms and conditions apply.

* AUSTRALIA: Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney. USA/CANADA: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Vancouver. EUROPE: Amsterdam, Athens, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, London, Manchester, Paris, Rome, Zurich. Valid for purchase until 30 April. Valid for departures until 31 May 2005. Eligible for mileage accrual. Discount applies to children below 12 years old. Other terms and conditions apply.

For more information on the above airfares, please call your travel agent or SIA Reservations at 756-8888. For departures from Cebu/Davao, please call (032) 232-6211 in Cebu and (082) 224 5608 in Davao. All prices quoted are per person based on Economy Class travel and exclude taxes, fees and surcharges. Minimum 2 adults must travel together.

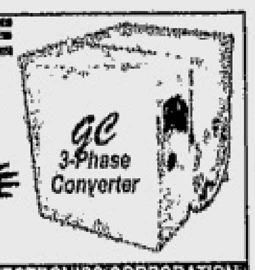
Opportunity knocks but once.

JOB Market

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

# RUN 3-PHASE

Motors & Equipment on ordinary 220/440V Single (1)-Phase Power & SAVE!



For details visit
www.gc3phase.net

**GOLDCREST INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS CORPORATION**
Call Ofc. Hrs. 920-2373 • 929-8623 • 0918-9293778

---

# SUMMER TREAT!!!

## EXCITING PACKAGES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CANTON+HKG+SZN | $ 138 | KUALA LUMPUR | $ 158 |
| HONGKONG+SZN | $ 168 | SINGAPORE | $ 180 |
| HONGKONG | $ 288 | SEOUL | $ 525 |
| HKG W/DISNEYLAND | $ 368 | WEST COAST | $ 590 |
| BANGKOK | $ 188 | EUROPE | $2238 |
| GUAM | $ 330 | | |

## AFFORDABLE FARES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BANGKOK | $ 195 | LOS ANGELES / SN FRANCISCO | $ 780 |
| HONGKONG | $ 237 | NEW YORK | $ 830 |
| SINGAPORE | $ 150 | | |

## DOMESTIC PACKAGES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BOHOL | P5565 | PUERTO GALERA | P2795 |
| BORACAY | P6735 | VIGAN+LAOAG | P4530 |
| CEBU | P5565 | | |

*Fly & Cruise*
Singapore+Penang+Phuket
$568

**COLORS TRAVEL & TOURS**
Rm. 611 Pacific Bldg., Quintin Paredes St., Binondo, Manila
Tel: 241-8175 Tel/Fax: 242-0798 Mobile: 0922-8120961
Email: colorstravel@fastmail.fm

---

# PACKAGE PROMO

## 12 DAYS EUROPE TOUR at US$1,880

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SHENZHEN PACKAGE | $ 138 | KUALA LUMPUR | $ 175 |
| HONGKONG + SHENZHEN PKG | $ 148 | BALI PKG | $ 365 |
| HONGKONG PROMO PKG | $ 238 | SHANGHAI PKG | $ 371 |
| BANGKOK PROMO PKG | $ 198 | BEIJING PKG | $ 470 |
| MACAU PACKAGE | $ 258 | GUAM PKG | $ 355 |
| SINGAPORE PROMO PKG | $ 308 | SAIPAN PKG | $ 355 |
| SIN + MALAYSIA + INDONESIA | $ 368 | PALAU PKG | $ 449 |
| | | SYDNEY PKG | $ 675 |

| INT'L TICKETS | | DOMESTIC PKG | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HONGKONG | $ 237 | PUERTO GALERA | ₱2,888 |
| BANGKOK | $ 175 | LAOAG | ₱5,360 |
| SINGAPORE | $ 257 | BORACAY | ₱6,835 |
| KUALA LUMPUR | $ 130 | PALAWAN | ₱5,780 |
| AUSTRALIA | $ 520 | CEBU | ₱5,465 |
| SFO / LAX | $ 770 | BOHOL | ₱6,295 |
| NEW YORK | $ 930 | BACOLOD | ₱5,675 |
| NEW JERSEY | $ 930 | ILOILO | ₱5,530 |
| VANCOUVER | $ 770 | DAKAK | ₱7,115 |
| EUROPE | $ 725 | CAGAYAN DE ORO | ₱6,885 |
| | | DAVAO | ₱6,510 |

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

**PATISSE INT'L TRAVEL & TOURS**
G/F LBB2 BLDG., 1933 SAN ANDRES ST., MALATE, MLA.
TEL. 4007701 / 4007702 / 5236954 / 4007705
Cell #: 0919-2841767 / 0920-9512896
E-mail: patisse2000@edsamail.com.ph/patissetrvl@amadeusph.com

---

# SKYNET TRAVEL CORPORATION

IATA PTAA

G/F & 2/F TSE and Sons Bldg. 1743 A. Mabini St. Malate
Tel. Nos. 521-8002 • 521-7400 • 400-0500 • 400-0510
521-9808 • 521-7800 • 522-1300 • 525-4723 • 526-6062
Fax No. 526-6304 • Mobile No. (0921) 445-1778
Email: skynettravel@amadeusph.com
BOOKING OFFICES: [illegible]

We are open on Sundays from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm
WE ALSO OFFER OTHER INT DESTINATIONS [illegible] TOURS, PASSPORT, DOCUMENTATION & VISA ASSISTANCE

Ticket Only

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CLARK/KOTAKINABALU/CLARK | P1,818 | CLARK/[illegible]/CLARK | P3,898 | [illegible] | $118 |

| KOTAKINABALU 3D/2N via AIR ASIA | KUALA LUMPUR 3D/2N via AIR ASIA | SINGAPORE 3D/2N via AIR ASIA | KUALA LUMPUR + GENTING HIGHLANDS 4D/3N VIA AIR ASIA | CANTON FAIR 4D/3N |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| from $119 | from $153 | from $185 | from $215 | $385 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3N SHZN W/ WINDOWS OF THE WORLD 4D/3N | $169 | SHZN+BEIJING 5D/4N | $329 |
| 1N HKG+2N SHZN 4D/3N | $169 | SHZN+BEIJING+SHANGHAI 6D/5N | $339 |
| SHZN+CANTON+MACAU 5D/4N | $179 | GUAM 3D/2N | $343 |
| 1N HKG+1N SHZN 3D/2N | $179 | SAIPAN 3D/2N | $345 |
| BANGKOK 3D/2N | $188 | KUL+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N | $348 |
| HKG COMPULSORY TOUR 3D/2N | $249 | 2N BRUNEI+2N KUL 4D/3N | $349 |
| BANGKOK+PATTAYA 4D/3N | $255 | 2N BRUNEI+2N SIN 4D/3N | $359 |
| BRUNEI 3D/2N | $275 | SGN+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N | $369 |
| BANGKOK+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N | $278 | BKK+SIN+HKG+SHZN 7D/6N | $439 |
| HKG FREE AND EASY 3D/2N | $285 | SYDNEY 4D/3N | $679 |
| SHZN+SHANGHAI 4D/3N | $289 | HAWAII 4D/3N | $729 |
| 3N BKK+1N BRUNEI | $295 | AUCKLAND 4D/3N | $919 |
| KUALA LUMPUR 3D/2N | $299 | US TOUR 9D/8N | $1199 |
| SAIGON 3D/2N | $318 | EUROPE TOUR 12D/11N | $1859 |
| SIN+HKG+SHZN 5D/4N | $325 | | |

---

# HONG KONG CHINA & BANGKOK

Limited Seats only!!!

| | |
|---|---|
| 3D2N HONG KONG + SHENZHEN | $ 148 |
| 3D2N HONG KONG | $ 168 |
| 4D3N HONG KONG + SHENZHEN | $ 178 |
| 5D4N PEARL RIVER DELTA | $ 218 |
| 6D5N HONG KONG + BANGKOK | $ 298 |
| 5D4N SHENZHEN + GUILIN | $ 258 |
| 5D4N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI | $ 298 |
| 6D5N SHENZHEN + BEIJING | $ 348 |
| 8D7N SHENZHEN + SHANGHAI + BEIJING | $ 398 |

ALSO AVAILABLE HONG KONG DISNEYLAND PACKAGES

Call your Travel Agent Now!!!

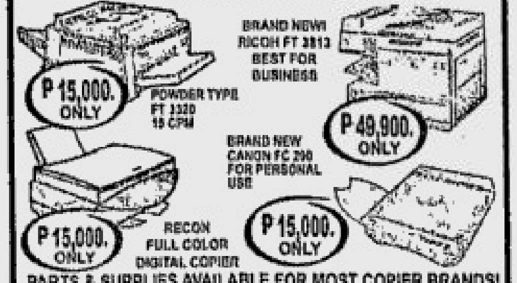
| | |
|---|---|
| SUNBRIGHT TOURS | 5234816 / 5236617 / 5244246 / 5240839 / 5240898 |
| SINAI | 4005560 / 5240686 |
| SUMMIT | 6368118 to 19 / 6368125 |
| AP TRAVEL | 8557149 / 8557151 / 8557154 |

---

# COPIERS

Sales/Rentals

RICOH • Canon • Olivetti • Savin
Also Available : LIQUID COPIERS


P15,000. ONLY
POWDER TYPE FT 3320 15 CPM
BRAND NEW! RICOH FT 3813 BEST FOR BUSINESS
P49,900. ONLY
BRAND NEW CANON FC 290 FOR PERSONAL USE
P15,000. ONLY
RECON FULL COLOR DIGITAL COPIER
P15,000. ONLY

PARTS & SUPPLIES AVAILABLE FOR MOST COPIER BRANDS!

**COPYTRADE®**
Copytrade Bldg. 550 MF Jhocson St. Sampaloc, Manila (Beside Nat'l Univ.)
Tels. 749-0155 to 56
781-3472 • 749-0216
www.copytrade.com.ph

- RINGBINDERS • LAMINATORS
- CUTTERS/BLUEPRINT/RISO
- FAX MACHINES ETC
- ACCEPT COPIER RENTALS FOR SHORT EVENTS
- BUY/TRADE-IN OLD COPIERS

---

# HAVE A SMASHING SUMMER!

Study at

# VERNON TAPALLA'S COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE

BIG DISCOUNT PACKAGES

| | |
|---|---|
| SCB | The Success & Confidence Building Program |
| CP1 | On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development |
| CP2 | On Grammar & Conversational English |
| CP3 | On Public Speaking & Leadership Training |
| WP1 | On Business & Technical Writing |
| WP2 | On Feature & Creative Writing |
| JCP | On Speech, Grammar, Public Speaking, Confidence Bldg., Personality Dev't., + Reading and Comprehension for kids |

PRIVATE TUTORING & CORPORATE TRAINING ARE AVAILABLE

MAKATI - 892-9502 / 892-9503 ALABANG - 845-0886

---

# HALF PRICE!

**SPACIO** home and office design

Our Spacio office partitions are so affordable - you would think they were half-priced!

CALL US:
**MODULAR METAL PHILIPPINES, INC.**
2nd Floor West City Plaza Building
#66 West Avenue, West Triangle, Quezon City
Tel. 374-7737 • Telefax 374-7738
E-mail: spacio888@yahoo.com

---

# HONEY HOLIDAYS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | TICKET TO LOS ANGELES ROUNDTRIP Dep.: Tues & Sat until May 31 | $580 |
| 7D | MONGOLIA+BEIJING FULLBOARD Dep April 29, 2005 | $399 |
| 7D | XIAN+BEIJING+TIANJIN FULLBOARD Dep April 29, 2005 only | $448 |
| 4D | HONGKONG+SHENZHEN Dep: April 30, May 7, 14, 21 & 28 | $168 |
| 5D | HONGKONG+SHENZHEN Dep: May 4, 11, 18 & 25 | $180 |
| 7D | HONGKONG/SHENZHEN (with Windows of the World) ZHUHAI/MACAU+CANTON (w Panyu Safari) FULLBOARD except in HKG Dep Apr 27 May 4, 11, 18 & 25 | $299 |
| 4D | BANGKOK Dep April 28, May 5, 12, 19 & 26 | $179 |
| 5D | BANGKOK+PATTAYA FULLBOARD Dep April 28, May 4, 11, 18 & 25 | $199 |
| 6D | ANGKOR WAT+BANGKOK FULLBOARD Dep April 28 May 6, 12 19 & 26 | $456 |
| 5D | KUALA LUMPUR+GENTING FULLBOARD Dep April 27 May 4, 11 18 & 25 | $488 |
| 6D | BEIJING+SHANGHAI Dep April 26, May 3, 10, 17 & 24 | $345 |
| 8D | BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD Dep May 1, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, 24 | $414 |
| 8D | VIETNAM (Hanoi+Halong Bay)+GUILIN FULLBOARD Dep April 23 & 30, May 7, 14, 21 & 28 | $567 |
| 8D | XIAN+BEIJING+SHANGHAI FULLBOARD Dep April 23 & 30, May 7, 14, 21 & 28 | $558 |
| 8D | SHANGHAI+JIUZHAIGOU FULLBOARD Dep April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 | $456 |
| 11D | SYDNEY+MELBOURNE+CANBERRA +BLUE MOUNTAIN+KUALA LUMPUR 4 STAR HOTEL FULLBOARD Dep.: May 18 | $1,380 |
| 13D | NEW YORK+PHILADELPHIA+WASH.DC +NIAGARA FALLS+KUALA LUMPUR 4 STAR HOTEL Dep.: May 11 | $1,680 |
| 8D | JAPAN (FUJI MT.+DISNEY SEA+OSAKA+UNIVERSAL STUDIOS+KYOTO+NAGOYA+AICHI EXPO '05 4 STAR HOTEL FULLBOARD Dep.: May 18 | $1,780 |

•MAKATI: 892-8631 to 36/892-4704 to 05/892-4472
•MALATE: 522-1021 to 22 •JUAN LUNA: 243-8383 to 84
•BINONDO: 247-1456 to 57 •SAMPALOC: 740-3687 / 416-5371
•STA. CRUZ 783-4254 / 711-6776 •Q.C.: 434-3879 / 924-1957
•SAN JUAN: 722-6514 / 700-2814 MANDALUYONG: 747-3075to78
•CEBU: 231-8693 / 231-8935 •BACOLOD: 434-7244/709-0291
•DAVAO: 300-9260/300-9268 •DUMAGUETE: 2253814 / 225-7280
•Rosa Ang: 0917-5268838 •Lorie: 0917-6270158

---

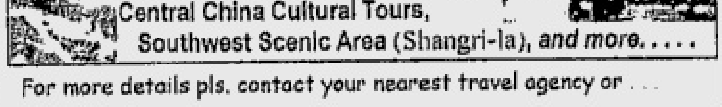
# China Panorama

華夏博覽

| | |
|---|---|
| B1 | *Beijing 4 Days* |
| H1 | *Shanghai 4 Days* |
| C1B6 | *Beijing, Shanghai 6 Days* |
| C1A | *Beijing, Xian, Guilin 6 - 8 Days* |
| C1B | *Beijing, Shanghai, Hangzhou, Guilin 6 - 9 Days* |
| C1C | *Beijing, Xian, Shanghai, Guilin 6 - 10 Days* |
| C2 | *Hangzhou, Shanghai, Beijing, Xian, Guilin 7 - 11 Days* |

A Yantze River Cruises Tour 5 Days
*w/ Extention 5 - 12 Days*

Silk Road, Inner-Mongolia,
Tibet, JiuZhaiGou National Park,
Zhang Jia Jie National Forest Park,
Central China Cultural Tours,
Southwest Scenic Area (Shangri-la), *and more. . . .*



D Pilgrim Series
Mount Putuo 4 Days
*w/ Extention 4 - 11 Days*

* *Accept hotel and air ticket booking throughout China.*

For more details pls. contact your nearest travel agency or . . .

**PANDA TRAVEL SERVICE INC.**
479 - 481 Sto. Cristo Street, Binondo, Manila
Tels 242-2585 Trunk line Fax 242-2650 . 242-2652
PTAA IATA DO1153-00
http://www.pandatour.com

---

# Royal Tours

| | |
|---|---|
| 1N HONGKONG+1N SHENZHEN | $242 |
| 2N HONGKONG COMPULSORY TOURS | $252 |
| 2N HONGKONG+1N SHENZHEN | $262 |
| 2N HONGKONG+1N SHENZHEN+OCEAN PARK | $302 |
| 2N HONGKONG NO COMPULSORY TOURS | $291 |
| 2N MACAU | $235 |
| 2N XIAMEN | $236 |
| BANGKOK | $192 |
| SINGAPORE | $319 |

**Royal Vacation Holiday Travel & Tours**
523 Remedios Street, Malate, Manila
Tel. nos.: 524-9971 / 524-9987 / 521-6727 / 521-3288 Fax no.: 521-3288

---

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PEARL RIVER DELTA 5D/4N USD218 USD248 DEPARTURE: WEDNESDAY | SHENZHEN • HONGKONG 3D/2N USD148, 3D/2N USD168 DEPARTURES: WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS; 4D/3N USD178 DEPARTURES: SUNDAYS | SHENZHEN Free & Easy USD218 3D/2N DEPARTURES: WEDNESDAYS FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS |
| SHENZHEN HONGKONG BANGKOK 5D/4N USD298 DEPARTURES: WEDNESDAYS | SHENZHEN • GUILIN 5D/4N USD258 DEPARTURES: WEDNESDAYS | HONGKONG Free & Easy USD288 3D/2N DEPARTURES: WEDNESDAYS FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS |
| SHENZHEN HONGKONG BANGKOK 6D/5N USD298 DEPARTURES: FRIDAYS & SUNDAYS | SHENZHEN • SHANGHAI 5D/4N USD298 DEPARTURES: WEDNESDAYS | SHENZHEN HONGKONG Free & Easy USD288 4D/3N DEPARTURES SUNDAYS |
| SHENZHEN SHANGHAI BEIJING 8D/7N USD398 DEPARTURES: SUNDAYS | SHENZHEN • BEIJING 6D/5N USD348 DEPARTURES: FRIDAYS | GOLF TOUR MISSION HILLS & LONG ISLAND USD478 3D/2N DEPARTURES WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS |

HONGKONG - DISNEYLAND PACKAGE NOW AVAILABLE!

**Magellan World Travel, Inc.** TEL. NOS. [illegible]

| Asia Global Travel | Canua Travel | Providence Travel |
|---|---|---|
| Angeles City TEL. NOS.: (045) 526 1603<br>(045) 887 5184<br>(045) 887 5062 | Dagupan City TEL. NOS.: (075) 522 5609<br>(0920) 927 8543 | Los Baños, Laguna TEL. NOS.: (049) 536 5409<br>(049) 536 5412 |

---

# PRINT PROFIT

## START A PRINTSHOP BUSINESS NOW!

START-UP CAPITAL ₱30T
Inclusive of Training and Equipments

FOR RESERVATION
CALL: (02) 735-0452 • (02) 488-2393 • (02) 488-8005
0919-4875363 • 0919-8310863

---

# MULAN 木蘭旅行社 TRAVEL SERVICE CORP.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4D | SHANGHAI | dep: May 9 & 23 |
| 4D | BEIJING | dep: April 24, May 6, 20 |
| 6D | BEIJING / SHANGHAI | dep: April 24, May 6, 20 |
| 6D | SHANGHAI / GUILIN | dep: April 29, May 9, 23 |
| 7D | BEIJING/SHANGHAI/XIAN | dep: April 24, May 6, 20 |
| 8D | SHANGHAI/XIAN/GUILIN | dep: May 9 & 23 |
| 9D | YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE | dep: May 26, June 9 |

CUSTOMIZED PACKAGES (create your own itinerary)
CORPORATE AND INCENTIVE TOURS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 7D | VANCOUVER / ROCKIES | $568. Triple+airfare Tues & Sat |
| 12D | MELBOURNE/SYDNEY/GOLDCOAST PACKAGE | May 16 $1,788. |
| 8D | EASTCOAST PACKAGE | $558. Triple+airfare Wed & Sat |
| 9D | WESTCOAST PACKAGE | $598. Triple+AIRFARE Daily |
| | VIRGO CRUISE PROMO | April 24-27 $540. |

525 NUEVA ST., BINONDO, MANILA
Tel.: 244-9690/92, 245-4658, 309-1758, 309-3723 Fax: 241-8401
Email: travelmulan@yahoo.com or mulantravel@hotmail.com Cell. No.: 0917-514-0378

---

# SUMMER VACATION

**HELLO BEIJING 4 DAYS TOUR**
Every Friday

**SHANGHAI 4 DAYS TOUR**
Every Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

**BEIJING, SHANGHAI, XIAMEN 7 DAYS TOUR**
Every Friday

**YANGTZE RIVER CRUISE 5 DAYS TOUR**
Every Sunday

**SHANGHAI, BEIJING, XIAN, GUILIN, XIAMEN 10 DAYS TOUR**
4/23, 5/07, 5/21

**BEIJING, XIAN, GUILIN, XIAMEN 8 DAYS TOUR**
4/23, 5/07, 5/21

**EAST CHINA 8 DAYS TOUR**
4/24, 5/08, 5/22

**JIUZHAIGOU, LESHAN, MT. EMEI 7 DAYS TOUR**
4/18, 5/09, 5/23

**ZHANGJIAJIE 5 DAYS TOUR**
4/25, 5/09, 5/16, 5/30

**GUIZHOU, YUNNAN 9 DAYS TOUR**
4/19, 5/10, 5/24

MAY 1 SPECIAL PROMO
FIVE STAR HOTEL
BEIJING SHANGHAI 5 DAYS TOUR $589
SHANGHAI BEIJING 6 DAYS TOUR $659

**Uni-Orient TRAVEL, INC.**
BINONDO. 447 Juan Luna St., Binondo Tel. 243-3888
MAKATI : 167 Legaspi St., Cor. Dela Rosa Tel: 818-9585; 815-8326
CEBU : 90 F. Ramos St., Cebu City Tel. 253-1866

---

# SALE HONGKONG $138

HONGKONG / BANGKOK / SINGAPORE / NEPAL / INDIA / BRUNEI / [illegible] / SEOUL / DUBAI / UAE / EUROPE / LA / SFO / VANCOUVER / NEWARK / AUSTRALIA / KUALA LUMPUR and other destinations

**WIN Travel & Tours**
[illegible]

PTAA IATA

---

ALL IN, NO HIDDEN CHARGES "We Care for Tourists"

HONG KONG w/ Shenzhen & city tours Plus FREE! 3D/2N PUERTO GALERA GOOD FOR 2 FOR GROUP OF 8 PAX

| $197 3D/2N | $219 3D/2N | $249 4D/3N |
|---|---|---|

EVERY FRIDAY DEP. [illegible]
APRIL & MAY DEP ONLY & WHILE AVAILABLE SEATS LAST

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| BANGKOK w/ Daily b'fast & city tour | $31 | $206 |
| SINGAPORE w/ Daily b'fast & city tour | $68 | $357 |

| BORACAY | SUBIC | PUERTO GALERA | PALAWAN |
|---|---|---|---|
| P3750 | P1000 FOR 8 PAX | P3542 FOR 2 PAX | P7500 FOR 8 PAX |

TICKET ONLY

| HONG KONG | SINGAPORE | NARITA | LAX |
|---|---|---|---|
| $ 238 | $ 258 | $ 448 | $ 808 |

**Philippine Explorer**
438 6165 438 3042 439 5987
TXT to: 0922-3718478

OUTLETS:

| | |
|---|---|
| Robinsons Sta. Rosa | (049) 837-8251 |
| SM Bacoor, Cavite | (046) 4173213 |
| Festival Supermall | 842-9028 |
| Robinsons Manila | 302-0095/302-0126 |

---

# TRAVEL PLAZA INCORPORATED

IATA

| PROMO TICKETS | | INT'L PACKAGE | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HONGKONG | $237 | 3D2N HKG/SZN/CAN | $ 148 |
| SINGAPORE | $255 | 3D2N SHENZHEN | $ 148 |
| BANGKOK | $200 | MALAYSIA PKG | $ 158 |
| TAIPEI | $240 | BANGKOK PKG | $ 195 |
| JAPAN | $350 | SINGAPORE PKG | $ 303 |
| SYDNEY/PERTH | $485 | SIN+JOHORE+BATAM+BRUNEI | $ 366 |
| BRISBANE | $490 | SIN+MALAYSIA+INDONESIA | $ 365 |
| AUKLAND | $610 | | |
| LOS ANGELES | $790 | | |
| NEWARK | $785 | | |
| HONOLULU | $610 | | |
| EUROPE | $772 | | |

| DOMESTIC PACKAGE | |
|---|---|
| BOHOL PKG | P 5265 |
| BORACAY PKG | P 6635 |
| DAVAO PKG | P 6310 |
| CEBU PKG | P 5265 |
| PALAWAN PKG | P 5580 |
| DAKAK PKG | P 7115 |

(ALL PACKAGES EXCLUDING TAXES)
Other INTERNATIONAL and DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES are available.
We also offer PASSPORTING/VISA ASSISTANCE & other documentation needs

1089 Pablo Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila
Tel.: 524-1405 / 524-0987 / 524-1477
0922-8044156 / 0919-5321555 JO/PAUL

---

# Special Promo Package

HONGKONG
$135 $145 $168

| BANGKOK | SINGAPORE |
|---|---|
| $189 $205 $207 | $316 $320 $330 |

BUDGET FARES $

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HONGKONG | $ 237 | HONOLULU | $ 910 |
| BANGKOK | $ 168 | AUSTRALIA | $ 648 |
| SINGAPORE | $ 268 | NEW YORK | $ 920 |
| VANCOUVER | $ 770 | NAGOYA | $ 536 |
| OSAKA | $ 405 | TAIPEI | $ 300 |
| TOKYO | $ 415 | SEOUL | $ 345 |
| LAX / SFO | $ 775 | TORONTO | $ 910 |

| | |
|---|---|
| EVERY SUN DEPARTURE 2 NITE HKG/1 NITE SHZ $ 178 | SINGAPORE MALAYSIA INDONESIA $ 368 |
| EVERY WED DEPARTURE 1 NITE HKG/2 NITE SHZ $ 188 | 4D/3N SHZ + CANTON - MACAU CITY TOUR FULL BOARD MEALS $ 189 |

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC TICKETS/PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE.
WE ALSO OFFER PASSPORTING/ VISA ASSISTANCE/ NSO

**SANS TRAVEL & TOURS**

P. TUAZON, CUBAO BRANCH
TEL# 913-9560, 913-9508, 438-8227, 439-8769, 439-2847
CELL.#: 0916-2581024, 0919-8434347, 0920-5416440

WEST AVE Q.C. BRANCH
TEL: 376-2810, 376-2811
CEL #: 0916-5699734
0928-3615805
E-mail: sanstravel@yahoo.com
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

---

# MEGA SAVER'S PACKAGE

AFFORDABLE BORACAY/BOHOL/PALAWAN PACKAGES

| | |
|---|---|
| 4D/3N CAN/HKG/SHZ (MAY DEP) | $148 |
| 2N SHZ+CAN+HKG (MAY/JUNE DEP) | $138 |
| 2N HKG+CAN+SHZ (MAY/JUNE DEP) | $148 |
| 1N HKG/2N BKK/1N SHZ | $298 |
| 1N HKG/2N BKK/2N SHZ | $298 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3D/2N HKG | $168 | 5D/4N SHZ+SHA | $298 |
| 1N HKG/1N SHZ | $148 | 4D/3N KUALA LUMPUR | $364 |
| 5D/4N HKG / SHZ | $188 | SIN/JOHOURE/BATAM | $385 |
| 4D/3N HKG / SHZ | $178 | MACAU | $258 |
| SINGAPORE | $241 | BANGKOK | $214 |

PROMO TICKET FARE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| USA/CANADA | $790 | NEW YORK | $950 |
| VANCOUVER | $840 | LONDON | $840 |
| EUROPE | $750 | AUSTRALIA | $520 |

**Seven Seas Travel and Tours**
Unit 1561 CK SY DIAMOND BLDG. LIBERTAD PASAY CITY
Tel. nos. 833-1986 / 833-7173
E-mail: seas88@info.com.ph / seas882003@yahoo.com

---

# BUDGET PACKAGES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PUERTO GALERA | P 3200 | BORACAY | P 2950 |
| PALAWAN | P 3834 | BOHOL | P 3675 |
| HONGKONG FREE & EASY | $ 285 | CANTON + HONGKONG + SHENZHEN | $ 138 |
| BANGKOK | $ 188 | SINGAPORE | $ 185 |
| SAIGON | $ 329 | KUALA LUMPUR | $ 158 |
| 3D2N SHENZHEN+HONGKONG CITY TOUR | $ 148 | 3D2N SHENZHEN FREE & EASY | $ 218 |

| | | PROMO TICKETS | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1NITE HONGKONG+1NITE SHENZHEN | $ 168 | HONGKONG | $ 235 |
| 1NITE HONGKONG+2NITE SHENZHEN | $ 178 | BANGKOK | $ 175 |
| 2NITE HONGKONG+1NITE SHENZHEN | $ 178 | SINGAPORE | $ 255 |
| 5D/4N PEARL RIVER DELTA W/ MACAU | $ 268 | AUSTRALIA | $ 515 |
| 4D/3N SHENZHEN W/ WINDOWS OF THE WORLD | $ 169 | SFO/LAX | $ 765 |
| 4D/3N SHENZHEN+SHANGHAI | $ 289 | VANCOUVER | $ 765 |
| 5D/4N SHENZHEN+BEIJING FULLBOARD | $ 329 | NEW JERSEY | $ 920 |
| 6D/5N SHENZHEN+SHANGHAI+BEIJING | $ 339 | NEW YORK | $ 975 |
| | | EUROPE | $ 720 |

FIRST TIME IMMIGRANT FARES AT VERY LOW PRICE!!!
VISA ASSISTANCE, PASSPORT PROCESSING, DOMESTIC TICKETS & LOCAL PACKAGES, CAR RENTALS, HOTEL RESERVATIONS & EDUCATIONAL TOURS

**AIR TRAVEL GUIDE & TOURS, INC.**
2nd Floor Unit C Davis Bldg., A. Mabini cor. Sta. Monica Sts., Ermita, Manila
Tels.: 400-3013 / 303-1410 Telefax: 522-0354
Cell No. 0917-3295594 E-mail: airtrvlguide@amadeusph.com
ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

---

Brand New. Good Location. Good View

# BAGUIO VACATION APTS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| P2,500/day | 2BR | 5 Beds |
| P3,500/day | 3BR | 10 Beds |

Annual rates available

Extra Beds/ cooking Allowed Spacious Garden for Jogging/Biking. Foggy . Beautiful Sunset View. Clubhouse w meeting rooms & Fireplace

Pines Garden Villas Subd.
Asin Road, Baguio Circumferential Road
09189395629. 09189403711.0744455546. 8522466

**WE SELL RENT**
**Exhibit & Promo Systems**

MADE IN SWEDEN

"Top of the line" kit

**TRANSAD ADVERTISING INC**
4187-1B Negros St., cor. Arellano Palanan Makati City
Tels: 552-9119 / Tel/Fax: 552-7743

**Start a New Business**

**P25,000***

Package Includes:
[illegible]

NO FRANCHISE FEE!

**CELLFIX** cellphone specialist
The Pioneer in Cellphone Repair Training
Now with 35 branches nationwide
Be an authorized cellphone service center, dealer of units, spare parts & equipments, accessories, batteries, cards & more...

Other services:
- Check -Up
- Upgrade
- Cleaning
- Buy & Sell
- Modification & convertion
- Trade in
- Swapping
- Training

"GUARANTEED SMALL CAPITAL, BIG INCOME"

*Hurry Limited Offer Only!!!*

For Reservation Call or Visit:
# 100 Baltwng Bldg., Rizal Ave., Cor. 2nd Ave., Caloocan City
Tel.: 324-0174 / (0920) 8390350

*traveling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creations*

**HOLYLAND, JORDAN & EGYPT - MAY 16 • US$ 1,698**
Highlights: AMMAN - PETRA - MT. TABOR - CANA - NAZARETH - MT. CARMEL - GALILEE - TIBERIAS - QUMRAN - DEAD SEA - JERUSALEM - MT. SINAI - CAIRO

**US WEST COAST TOUR - 8 Days - $1,600 • 11 Days - $1,850**
Highlights: LOS ANGELES - UNIVERSAL STUDIOS - DISNEYLAND - SAN DIEGO SEA WORLD - TIJUANA - LAKE HAVASU - GRAND CANYON - HOOVER DAM - LAS VEGAS - BARSTOW - HEARST CASTLE - FRESNO - YOSEMITE PARK - SAN FRANCISCO

FLY AND CRUISE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11 N | EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN | $2,395 |
| 12 N | SCANDINAVIA & RUSSIA | $2,485 |
| 4D | SYDNEY | $689 |
| 6D | SYDNEY & GOLDCOAST | $968 |
| 4D | AUCKLAND | $929 |
| 2N | GUAM | $336 |

**PIRKKO & TROYTOURS, INC.**
Unit 218 City & Land Mega Plaza (2nd flr. Parking Level) ADB Ave. cor. Garnet St., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tels.: 688-8846 • 688-8658 • 687-2694 Fax: 688-8846
E-mail: pirkkotours@yahoo.com

voted by readers SUPER BRAND Reader's Digest Philippines

SUPER BRAND PLATINUM 2004

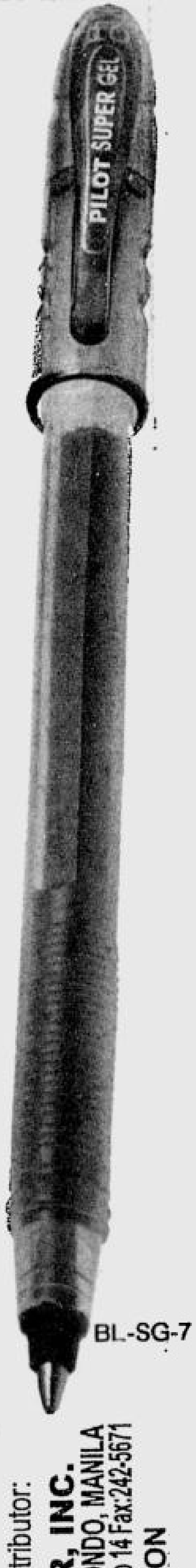
SUPERBRANDS HALL OF FAME

voted by readers SUPER BRAND Reader's Digest Philippines

SUPER BRAND GOLD 2003
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2002
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2001
SUPER BRAND GOLD 2000
SUPER BRAND GOLD 1999

**PILOT**
Smooth Advancement in writing technology

**SUPER GEL**
Superior ROLLER BALLPEN



BL-SG-7

Philippine Exclusive Distributor:
**COSMOS BAZAR, INC.**
571 Q. PAREDES ST., BINONDO, MANILA
P.O. BOX 1601 Tels.: 243-6912 to 14 Fax: 242-5671
**PILOT CORPORATION**
Tokyo Japan

**COPYSTAR** OFFICE AUTOMATION

Introducing **CLEAR POWDER COPIER**

RECONDITIONED

Canon IC-MF 3112

RICOH FT 3713 Reducer/Enlarger
For only P21,000

RICOH FT 3013 For only P15,000

Brand new Multifunction Copier

ALSO AVAILABLE:
LAMINATOR, FAX MACHINE & RING BINDER

SALES: 8997101 to 03 • 8997104
8997045 • 8997075 to 76 • 8997023

MAIN OFFICE: COPYSTAR Bldg. 948 J. P. Rizal Ave., near cor. Makati Ave., Makati City • Fax: 895-7802
CEBU OFFICE: 178 Sansiangko St., Cebu City • Tel. Nos.: (032) 255-0504 • (032) 256-3368 to 69
PAMPANGA: Mc Arthur Highway, Dolores, City of San Fernando Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-5055 • (045) 860-0383

**VITO CRUZ TOWER II**
Pablo Ocampo Sr. Ave. (Formerly Vito Cruz), Manila

FEW UNITS LEFT
SOLD OUT

for as low as **P12,632/ mo.**
IN-HOUSE FINANCING available

LEADING CONDOMINIUM DEVELOPER
Presidential Awardee
CITYLAND 812-2222 • 243-6565 • 818-8888 • 241-1894
892-6150 • (0919) 310-8553
www.cityland.net • investment@cityland.net

AS LOW AS **10% DOWNPAYMENT!**

**WEST BEVERLY HILLS**
A few minutes away from Robinson's Place & SM Dasmariñas

Pag-IBIG Accredited

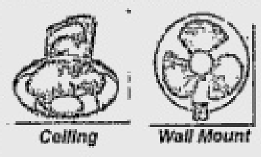
Available thru:
- Pag-IBIG (Local & OFW)
- SSS (OFW)
- In-House Financing

*For inquiries please contact:*
FOR ACCREDITATION
Contact BONG / CRESS
at 915-1876 or 915-2120 local 103, 104

BROKERS & BUYERS ARE WELCOME!!!

**MIST FAN COOLING SYSTEMS!**
Convert your existing Fan into an Evaporative Cooling System
*Instant temperature reduction up to 40°F!*

Truly Airconditition-like feeling!



*Perfect for:*
Gymnasiums • Factories • Greenhouse • Foundries • Outdoor Retails • Warehouse • Veranda • Sports Events • Restaurants • Livestocks • Manufacturing Plants • Church • Clubhouse • Garden Parties • Family Gatherings, etc.

*For inquiries & free estimates, call now!*
**COOL MIST INTERNATIONAL**
*Pioneer & Industry Leader since 1996*
Telefax: 639-1077 Tel. No: 639-1657
*SALES / RENTALS / DESIGNS / INSTALLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE*

**We Sell, Repair, Install, Maintain!**
**All Brands of Aircon Units**

koppel FEDDERS MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC Carrier National AIR CONDITIONERS idec AIRCONDITIONER

**For Free Estimate: Call 8866696**

**BEST**
Quality. Variety. Affordability. After-Sales Service.

Car Washer/ Multi-Purpose Cleaner

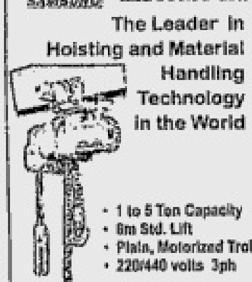
**Commando 707**
• 100 BAR/1500 PSI • 2.5 HP
**P3,900** ONE SET

*FREE DELIVERY* within Metro Manila

With AFTER SALES SERVICE
Major Credit Cards Accepted (Additional 7% Interest). Deferred Payments Up To 24 Mos.

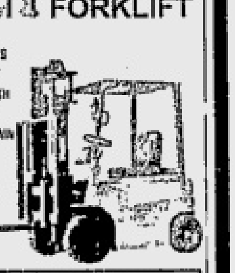
Exclusively Distributed by:
**CLEANCITY COMMERCIAL INCORPORATED**
MAIN OFFICE: 1851 M. OROSA ST., MALATE, MLA.
Tel. Nos.: 5244328 • 5240529 • 5245290
QUEZON CITY BRANCH: 646 QUEZON AVE. Tel. 7490581 • 7493709

**SAMSUNG** ELECTRIC CHAIN HOIST
The Leader in Hoisting and Material Handling Technology in the World



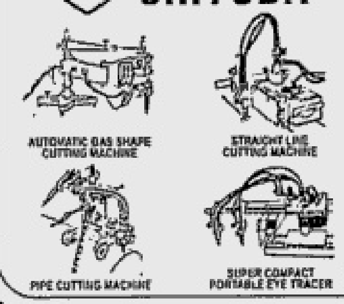
- 1 to 5 Ton Capacity
- 6m Std. Lift
- Plain, Motorized Trolley
- 220/440 volts 3ph

**Nailin FORKLIFT**
- DIESEL AND ELECTRIC UNITS
- ISUZU C240 DIESEL ENGINE
- SOLD IN 60 COUNTRIES WITH ITS MAIN MARKET IN USA
- DURABLE, EASY TO MAINTAIN
- RELIABLE AFTER SALES SERVICE
- AVAILABLE SPARE PARTS



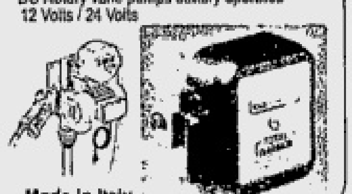
SALES • LEASE • RENT • PARTS • SERVICE

**CHIYODA**



AUTOMATIC GAS SHAPE CUTTING MACHINE
STRAIGHT LINE CUTTING MACHINE
PIPE CUTTING MACHINE
SUPER COMPACT PORTABLE EYE TRACER

TUTHILL-SPA
KSK - GASCO PUMPS & METERS
- Flow meters 3 & 4 digit
- Electric fuel pump wall mounted
- Portable diesel electric fuel pump
- DC Rotary vane pumps battery operated 12 Volts / 24 Volts



Made In Italy

**VICTOR HARDWARE**
697-699 G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City, Philippines
Tel.: (632) 743-6761 • Fax: 743-4587 & 732-0180
E-mail: victorhardware@i-manila.com.ph

PROMO PACKAGES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CANTON/HKG/SHZN | $138 | SIN/MALAYSIA/INDONESIA | $365 |
| 1N HKG+2N SHZ | $148 | KUALA LUMPUR | $158 |
| HONGKONG (FREE & EASY) | $240 | KUALA+GENTING HIGHLANDS W/ MALACCA TOUR | $215 |
| 2N HKG+1N SHZN | $238 | SINGAPORE+KUALA | $438 |
| SHZN+SHANGHAI | $288 | SAIGON | $318 |
| HKG/BANGKOK/SHZN | $298 | KUALA LUMPUR+BANGKOK | $398 |
| BANGKOK | $188 | GUAM | $388 |
| BANGKOK+PATTAYA | $258 | BALI | $368 |
| BANGKOK+HONGKONG | $278 | CAMBODIA+VIETNAM+SIN | $648 |
| BANGKOK+SINGAPORE | $378 | SEOUL | $698 |
| 3N BKK+1N BRUNEI | $295 | AUSTRALIA | $628 |
| SINGAPORE | $188 | NEW ZEALAND | $1208 |
| | | EUROPE | $1880 |

BUDGET FARES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | VANCOUVER | $768 |
| LOS ANGELES/SFO | $768 | TORONTO | $918 |
| HONOLULU | $578 | SYD/BNE/MEL/ADL | $518 |
| JFK | $808 | LONDON/PAR/AMS | $718 |
| NEWARK | $775 | BANGKOK | $200 |
| CHICAGO/FLORIDA/WAS | $928 | SINGAPORE | $255 |
| | | HONGKONG | $233 |

LOCAL TOURS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CORREGIDOR ISLAND | P1375 | BACOLOD | P5306 |
| CEBU | P4380 | PALAWAN | P6680 |
| BORACAY | P6735 | BANAUE+SAGADA | P4330 |
| BOHOL | P5365 | PUERTO GALERA | P3088 |
| DAVAO | P6315 | LAOAG | P5260 |
| | | PAHIYAS FESTIVAL | P1350 |

**DOLJUNTS** International Travel & Tours
Suite 1032, Cityland Mega Plaza, Tower, ADB Avenue cor. Garnet Road Ortigas Commercial Center, Pasig City
Tel Nos 687-2808, 687-2984, 687-2816, 687-2739, 914-0398 to 99
Fax No.: 687-2808 Cell: 0920-7893648, 0919-6826025
E-mail: doljunts_travel @yahoo.com

**BEST QUALITY, BUDGET FRIENDLY**
**WATER REFILLING EQUIPMENT PACKAGE**
Pentair Water Treatment Plymouth Products AMETEK
WaterCare 10 years
Now Available for as Low as
**P198,000.00**
INQUIRE NOW!

**HEAD OFFICE:**
WATERCARE MARKETING (PHILIPPINES)
3933 L. Roces Cor. Santol St., Sampaloc, Manila, Philippines 1008
Tel. # : (632) 716-6998 • 716-0880
Fax # : (632) 716-0903
E-mail: watrcare@ph.inter.net

**ALSO AVAILABLE AT:**
- SM Megamall, 5/F Bldg. A Tel. # 633-2510/20
- SM City Fairview, LGF Tel. # 417-6622/418-6024
- SM Southmall, UGF Tel. # 806-9393
- SM City Cebu, LGF Tel. # (032) 233-0252
- MC Home Ortigas Tel. # 638-5201
- MC Home Fort Bonifacio Tel.# 815-4270

AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTOR & IMPORTER OF
Pentair Water Treatment Plymouth Product (Ametek) • Nimbus Water System (Reverse Osmosis)
Badger Meter, Inc. • R-Can UV Sterilight • Rusco, Inc.• Pentaoxide Resin

*AT Your Service!*
WaterCare® *Our name, your Guarantee!*
A Member of: IBWA Water Quality Association

"The One Stop Shop for all your Water Treatment Needs"

Where you find the best.
JOB Market JOBMarket

KEYPHONE SYSTEM
EVER TEL

**Innovation System**
**Lease to Own Unit**
**Php2,000/mo.**
Tel lines/8 locals combination to 8 Tel. lines/20 locals combination

We also offer large system:
For Hotels, Call Centers, Banks, Hospitals, Universities, Offices, Municipalities and more.

**EVER TEL**
715-8114 411-2100
*"Your Business Communication Solution"*

**Travel SAFE, Travel SURE, Travel with US...**

*FREE TRAVEL INSURANCE AND VISA PROCESSING!!!*

**$699** NAMI- ISLAND/SEOUL/MT SORAK/ LOTTE WORLD/EVERLAND/ "FULL HOUSE" SHOOTING PLACES
DEP. DATE: MAY 18-22

*SEE SHOOTING PLACES OF "FULL HOUSE AND WINTER SONATA"*

**$1050** SEOUL/GYONGJU/PUSAN EVERLAND/LOTTE WORLD/ JEJU "ISLAND OF LOVE"
DEP. DATE: MAY 23 - 29

INCLUSIONS: RT AIRFARE / HOTEL ACCOM / FULLBOARD MEALS /DAILY TOURS AND TRANSFERS/ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE/ALL ADMISSIONS

**SAIGON $419**
DEP. DATE: APRIL 28-MAY 1
INCLUSIONS: RT AIRFARE / HOTEL ACCOM / FULLBOARD MEALS/DAILY TOURS AND TRANSFERS ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE/ALL ADMISSIONS

HO CHI MINH/CUCHI TUNNEL/MEKONG DELTA

DAY 01 HO CHI MINH/ARRIVAL
PICK UP AT TAN SON NHAT AIRPORT AND TRANSFER YOU TO A LOCAL RESTAURANT FOR LUNCH THEN HALFDAY CITY TOUR OF THE DYNAMIC HO CHI MINH, OVERNIGHT
DAY 02 HO CHI MINH/CUCHI TUNNEL
AFTER BREAKFAST TRANSFER TO CU CHI TUNNEL PASSING PADDY FIELDS. IN CU CHI YOU WILL EXPLORE THE AMAZING LABYRINTH OF TUNNELS USED BY THE GUERILLAS DURING THE WAR. SHOPPING AT BEN THAN BIGGEST SHOPPING CENTER
DAY 03 HO CHI MINH/ MITHO
A FULLDAY TRIP TO THE WATERY WORLD OF THE MEKONG DELTA. TAKE A BOAT TRIP ALONG NARROW WATERWAYS OVERHUNG WITH DENSE VEGETATION AND TRY EXOTIC FRUITS IN ONE OF THE MANY ORCHARDS AND THOI SON ISLAND. FOR LUNCH AMPLE THE LOCAL DELICACY ELEPHANTS EAR FISH VISIT THE BEAUTIFUL VINH TRANG PAGODA. BACK TO HO CHI MINH
DAY 04 HO CHI MINH/MANILA

PACKAGES

| | |
|---|---|
| SAIGON | $346 |
| SINGAPORE | $335 |
| SEOUL | $565 |
| BANGKOK | $268 |
| HONGKONG | $417 |

Inclusions:
Roundtrip Airfare
Roundtrip Transfers
3d/2n hotel accom
City tour except Saigon
Daily breakfast

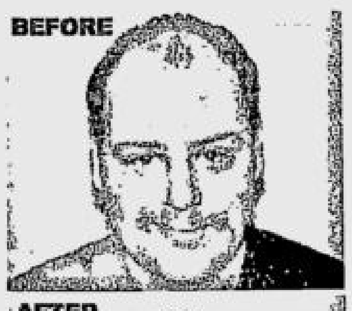
FARES

| | |
|---|---|
| SEOUL | $380 |
| BANGKOK | $225 |
| HONGKONG | $265 |
| OSAKA | $400 |
| SFO/LAX | $925 |
| HONOLULU | $920 |
| VANCOUVER | $900 |
| TORONTO | $1020 |
| DFW/CHI/JFK | $1020 |
| GUM | $361 |
| SINGAPORE | $265 |
| KUALALUMPUR | $400 |
| JAKARTA | $376 |
| AUSTRALIA | $520 |

MINIMUM 2 PAX

**RAKSO** AIR TRAVEL & TOURS INC.
G/F All Seasons Bldg., 112 Aguirre St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 812-9667; 840-2681; 812-9509 Fax No. 8402484; 812-0035
E-mail address: rakso@mozcom.com; ling_rakso@yahoo.com
IATA PTAA

**LOSING HAIR? DON'T LOSE HOPE.**



BEFORE

AFTER

Losing your hair can be a big problem, regardless of how old you are.

It could adversely affect your confidence, self-esteem, image and looks.

But now, hair loss isn't necessarily hopeless.

Thanks to Nu/Hart, you can now restore your own natural hairline through hair transplantation, a minor office-based procedure.

Nu/Hart Hair Clinic Manila is backed by a rich, 15-year history of over 25,000 individual hair restoration procedures performed on men and women from over 40 countries at 11 Nu/Hart centers worldwide.

**A Nu/Hart hair transplant is:**
- Permanent & growing
- Natural, using your own hair
- Maintenance-free
- Affordable
- No monthly visits
- No ongoing expenses

*Call or visit us now for a* **FREE CONSULTATION.**
**638-6000**
26/F Wynsum Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road (formerly Emerald Avenue) Ortigas (Behind Discovery Suites)
visit our website at **www.nuhart.com**
or email us at **manila@nuhartme.com**

**0%** INTEREST MONTHLY PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

**NU/HART** HAIR CLINIC
*There's a new you waiting at Nu/Hart.*

Manila • New York • Chicago • Atlanta • Pittsburgh
Philadelphia • Denver • Puerto Rico • Dubai

Not enough funds for the family vacation?

**Fly Now, Pay Later!**

*Let's talk. Call or better yet, visit us.*

PMC Finance & Investment Corporation
G/F Consolidated Mansions Condominium, 5420 South Superhighway, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 887-3661, 887-1785
887-1493, 843-6197
Fax: 843-1170
PTAA PHILTOA

**CURE BAD BREATH NOW**
Don't be a foul mouth.
Eliminate bad breath and related problem of *sour/bitter tastes, dry mouth, thick pasty saliva, post nasal drip, phlegm in throat, white coating in tongue* with
**THERABREATH KIT**
Free use of Halimeter to detect the source of bacteria and monitoring bad breath condition
Call: 0915-4309207
0917-8511049

# The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

## Troops storm town to rescue hostages

**BAGHDAD—Iraqi troops rescued several Shiite hostages Sunday after they battled their way into a town where Sunni extremists abducted dozens of people and threatened to kill the town's Shiite residents.**

The hostage-taking in Al-Madain south of Baghdad has sparked fears of wider sectarian strife between Iraq's Shiite majority and the Sunnis at a time when leaders from both communities seek agreement on the make-up of a government.

Parliament was meeting Sunday, but a new government was not expected to be announced before the end of the week.

"Police forces, backed by coalition forces, entered the town at 9 a.m. and encountered severe resistance from the terrorists," a defense ministry official told AFP.

Government forces have recaptured half of the town and freed 10 to 15 families held hostage by the gunmen, he said, adding that the clashes were continuing.

Officials have suggested the number of Shiite hostages in town could be as high as 80.

National Security Adviser Qassem Daoud told the Al-Arabiya satellite news channel: "Iraqi security forces have the situation under control and are dealing with the hostage-takers in a serious manner."

Iraqi army special forces on Saturday surrounded the town, home to Shiites and Sunnis, in hopes of averting a sectarian bloodbath that could badly damage Iraq's ethnic and religious ties.

On Saturday afternoon, gunmen blew up the building housing the Husseiniyat al-Rasul al-Adham mosque in Madain, a town 30 kilometers south of Baghdad built on the ruins of the ancient city of Ctesiphon, said a source at the interior ministry, adding that it was empty at the time.

The same source said events in Madain may be a tit-for-tat kidnapping of Shiites after the abduction of Sunnis from the powerful Dulaimi tribe, who have a presence in the area.

A spokesperson for radical Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr, Abdul Hadi al-Darraji, also suggested the incident may be part of a settling of scores among some families in the community.

"They have detained more than 80 people, including women and children, and they are threatening to kill them unless Shiites leave," one of the refugees, Capt. Haitham Mohammed of the Iraqi army, told AFP on Friday.

The road linking Baghdad with Kut, 200 km to the south, is among the most dangerous in the country where several beheaded bodies have surfaced in recent months.

The area around Madain and neighboring Salman Pak is home to several Sunni Arab tribes who follow the radical Wahabi brand of Islam that dominates Saudi Arabia and recent reports suggested that Shiites have set up vigilante groups for protection.

Daoud's fellow National Security Adviser Muwaffaq al-Rubaie blamed the rising wave of Islamic extremism around Madain on Saddam's policy of settling Sunni extremists in the stretch of towns just south of Baghdad after the 1991 Shiite uprising against the old regime. *AFP*

**US Army soldiers collect human remains in a bodybag at the scene of a car bomb attack on the airport road in Baghdad, Iraq, April 16.** AP

## Strong quake at Nias island sparks panic

GUNUNG SITOLI, Indonesia—A powerful undersea earthquake sparked widespread panic on the Indonesian island of Nias late Saturday night, an official and an AFP correspondent said.

The quake measuring an estimated 6.0 on the Richter scale struck just before midnight, but there was no tsunami threat, said Wijayanto, a Meteorology and Geophysics Agency official based in the town of Gunung Sitoli, on the eastern side of the island.

"We estimate that the earthquake took place in the Nias region," Wijayanto told AFP.

"The approximate strength of the earthquake was 6.0 on the Richter scale and we are still conducting further analysis.

"I don't think there will be a tsunami and our observation suggests very little chance of a tsunami," he said.

The quake cut off the town's electricity supply and caused widespread panic for residents in the town, with many women seen running for the hills clutching their babies, an AFP correspondent witnessed.

The town was blackened out for about 30 minutes after the quake but electricity was restored and police used megaphones to urge residents to remain calm. *AFP*

*Let the numbers speak !*

19.07%

**Full year Return from Jan. 1 to Dec. 29, 2004*

*The numbers tell you for a fact - the Sun Life Prosperity Balanced Fund outperformed all other balanced funds in 2004 with a 19.07%* full year return.*

*That means you would have earned 56.58%* if you stayed with it over the last two years!*

There's a Sun Life Prosperity Fund to suit the taste of every type of investor. Check them out here:

| PROSPERITY FUND | FUND COMPONENT | RISK PROFILE | RETURNS* | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 2004 Jan. 1 - Dec. 29 | 2003 Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 | 2003-2004 Jan. 1 '03 - Dec. 29, '04 |
| BOND | Purely Fixed Income | Risk Averse | 7.85% | 8.40% | 16.91% |
| BALANCED | Equities & Fixed Income | Risk Tolerant | 19.07% | 31.50% | 56.58% |
| PHILIPPINE EQUITY | Mostly Equities | Risk Taker | 20.16% | 39.84% | 68.03% |

* Rates of return, after tax and exclusive of sales loads, of the Sun Life Prosperity Funds during the periods indicated. Please note that these only indicate fund performance over the given periods and do not necessarily indicate future returns.

*Wise investing begins with understanding your financial needs and identifying the investment instrument to best address them. That's where our expert fund managers can help you. They continuously monitor and analyze market conditions so they can manage your investment portfolio better and help you meet your financial goals.*

*Let's talk numbers. Let's talk about investing made easy.*

**Invest in the Sun Life Prosperity Funds today.**

Call Your Mutual Fund Representative today for a better appreciation of our various mutual funds.
Or call SunLink at 849-9888 or through toll free numbers 1-800-10-sunlife.

SUN LIFE PROSPERITY FUNDS

Investing made easy.

Managed and distributed by:
Sun Life Asset Management Company, Inc.
10/F Tower II, The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue, Makati City, Philippines
E-mail: sunlink@sunlife.com
Visit www.sunlifefunds.com

Sun Life Financial
*Because trust is earned*

Invest wisely. Important information about the Sun Life Prosperity Funds is contained in their respective prospectuses. Please obtain copies from your Sun Life Mutual Fund Representative and read them carefully before investing. Share values, yields and investment returns will fluctuate. Sun Life Asset Management Company, Inc. is a member of the Sun Life Financial group of companies

**PAKISTAN President Gen. Pervez Musharraf (right) and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh sharing a light moment as they watch a cricket match between India and Pakistan from their bulletproof enclosure, in New Delhi, India, April 17.** AP

## India, Pakistan agree to bolster ties at 'very warm' talks

NEW DELHI—Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh agreed Sunday to boost road and rail links and set up a panel to promote trade during "very warm" talks after watching cricket together, officials said.

"The talks were wide-ranging and held in a very warm atmosphere," Singh's spokesperson Sanjaya Baru said picking up on the easy relationship between the two leaders of the traditional foes.

The two ran almost half an hour beyond a scheduled two-hour closed-door session after their delegations met, and emerged smiling for the cameras.

The committee would seek to accelerate bilateral trade and and commercial ties, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said.

"We want to promote trade and any problems that are coming in the way we certainly want to resolve them," PTI quoted Singh as saying during the talks with Musharraf.

Two-way trade between India and Pakistan has risen from $161 million in 2000 to $483.85 million in the fiscal year ended March 31, with the balance tilted heavily in India's favor.

The two men also agreed to launch a train service between Munnabao in India's Rajasthan state and Khokrapar in the Pakistani province of Sindh in December, PTI said.

Indian officials had said New Delhi would propose a raft of proposals, some new, some old. They would include reuniting families separated by the de facto border dividing Kashmir on the back of the historic launch on April 7 of a bus service linking the capitals of the divided Himalayan region.

Singh and Musharraf agreed to increase the frequency of the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service across divided Kashmir, official sources said. *AFP*

# Japan foreign minister flies into China turmoil

BEIJING/TOKYO—Japanese Foreign Minister Nobutaka Machimura flew into China on Sunday to try to ease a crisis as new anti-Japan protests erupted across the country after violent demonstrations in Shanghai.

The Chinese are furious at a revised Japanese school textbook they say whitewashes atrocities during Japan's 1931-45 occupation of China and at Tokyo's bid for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council.

In the third weekend of violent protests, thousands marched on Saturday to Japan's consulate in Shanghai, smashing windows, pelting it with paint bombs and attacking Japanese restaurants along the way.

Relations between the two Asian powerhouses are at their worst in decades and China's official Xinhua news agency put the number of protesters in Shanghai at 20,000.

"It was a result of Japan's wrong attitudes and actions on a series of issues concerning China," it quoted Shanghai municipal government spokesperson Jiao Yang as saying.

"... The students and citizens spontaneously took to the street to demonstrate and protest, expressing their discontent with the right-wing forces in Japan on violating the Sino-Japanese relations."

Some protesters held posters carrying messages such as "Face Up to History" and "The anti-Japan war is not over yet."

Two Japanese were injured when they were surrounded by a group in Shanghai, where thousands of Japanese firms and about 34,000 Japanese expatriates are located, Japanese media reported.

Jiao repeated the call for people to "remain calm and rational." Local media said some protesters had been detained for threatening public order.

Machimura was to meet his Chinese counterpart, Li Zhaoxing, in Beijing later on Sunday.

As many as 2,000 people marched through the streets of the northeastern Chinese city of Shenyang on Sunday, Japan's Kyodo news agency said. Demonstrators hurled bottles and eggs at Japanese consulate in the city.

Shanghai was quiet on Sunday. In Beijing, hundreds of paramilitary police guarded the ambassador's residence or waited to take up positions for the second straight day.

Demonstrators last weekend threw rocks and bottles at the compound.

Hong Kong Cable Television said several hundred people protested in southern Dongguan and southwestern Chengdu on Sunday. Kyodo said 2,000 Chinese workers "staged a violent strike" at Japanese electronics company Taiyo Yuden Co. in Dongguan. About 10,000 protested in southern Shenzhen, bordering Hong Kong, Hong Kong's ATV television said.

A few dozen Chinese living in the Vietnamese capital, Hanoi, gathered in front of Japanese Embassy shouting anti-Japan slogans. One banner read: "Japan out."

The violence has raised concerns about a backlash in Japan, and police have tightened security at the Chinese Embassy, consulates and residences after several incidents of harassment.

A man hurled a bottle at the Chinese consulate in Osaka, western Japan, on Sunday and set himself on fire when officers tried to subdue him, police said. Right-wing groups were driving around Tokyo in trucks fitted with loudspeakers, but riot police prevented them from approaching the Chinese Embassy.

Japanese Trade Minister Shoichi Nakagawa said the violence in China could hurt the Asian giant's global image and economy.

"Fear is increasing not only among Japanese firms but others that if they upset China, their companies could be destroyed," he told a Sunday TV program.

The deep freeze in Sino-Japanese ties comes at a time when rivalry and mistrust are festering despite economic ties that generate $178 billion in annual trade.

Among the many matters tangling ties are competition for energy resources, mutual concern about military strategies, and rivalry over leadership in Asian regional economic integration. *Reuters*

## *In Tokyo, man sets self on fire to protest violent China protests*

TOKYO—A man set himself on fire after throwing a bottle at a Chinese consulate in western Japan Sunday in apparent anger at violent anti-Japanese rallies in China.

The unidentified man was stopped by two police officers when he approached the consulate early Sunday.

When questioned, he suddenly threw a glass bottle toward the consulate gate and burst into flames, said an Osaka prefectural (state) police spokesperson on condition of anonymity.

The policemen extinguished the fire, which was believed to have been fueled by some kind of flammable liquid, he said.

The man suffered burns on his left hand and across his body and was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital, the spokesperson said.

China has lodged a protest to the Japanese government over rising incidents of harassment directed at Chinese interests here amid escalating tensions between the two countries.

Postal packages containing razor blades, empty pistol shells and white powder have been sent to Chinese diplomatic missions across the country, according to police and media reports.

Vandals also smeared red paint on the Chinese ambassador's residence in Tokyo last week.

The National Police Agency has instructed officials nationwide to boost security and personnel around Chinese businesses and diplomatic compounds, NHK public broadcaster reported Sunday. An NPA spokesperson was unable to confirm that.

The incidents are believed to be in retaliation for massive anti-Japanese protests across China this month that have damaged Japanese diplomatic buildings, vandalized businesses and reportedly injured as many as four Japanese.

The tensions have been fueled by anger over Japan's wartime aggression and anxieties about Tokyo's military and diplomatic ambitions. *AP*

**INDONESIAN** Muslim protesters shout slogans during an anti-Israel protest outside the US Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, April 17. Tens of thousands in the world's most populous Muslim country assailed the threat from a right-wing Jewish group to break into Al Aqsa mosque, known by Jews as Temple Mount, a site holy to both Jews and Muslims. AP

## Indonesians hit Israel 'oppression' of Palestinians in massive rally

JAKARTA—Tens of thousands of Muslim Indonesians on Sunday held a peaceful anti-Israel protest and rallied outside the US Embassy in what police said appeared to be the largest demonstration the city has seen in years.

Local radio reported that thousands of others held similar marches in several other cities and towns across the archipelago to protest what they called Israel's oppression of the Palestinian people and alleged threats to the al-Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem, a site considered holy for Muslims as well as Jews.

The protest came one week after a leader of the radical Palestinian movement Hamas appealed to "the entire Muslim world" to protect al-Aqsa as up to 10,000 Palestinians formed a mass human shield at the al-Aqsa mosque against any possible threat to the site by Israeli ultra-nationalists.

Indonesia is the world's largest Muslim nation.

The Jakarta protesters, many accompanied by children, were members and supporters of the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS), a fledgling but popular Muslim political party.

Similar large-scale protests, organized by the same party, were reported in several Indonesian cities and towns, including Surabaya in East Java, Makassar in South Sulawesi, Bandar Lampung in southern Sumatra island, Jepara in Central Java, and even in tsunami-ravaged Banda Aceh.

"Who is the real terrorist?" PKS president Tifatul Sembiring, asked in English during his address in front of the embassy.

Washington's help in backing "Israel's brutalism," was ruining the very values of liberty and equality it claimed to be fighting for, he said.

"The US, Israel are the real terrorist," said a large banner carried by the noisy protesters who yelled anti-Israeli slogans interspersed with shouts of "Allahu Akbar" (God is great).

The crowd also shouted "terrorist" while pointing their index fingers at the embassy when party activists said "America," through a loudspeaker.

A PKS statement distributed during the protest asked the government to seriously back efforts to save the al-Aqsa mosque and the independence of the Palestinian nation.

"We call on the government to save Palestine from the threat of Israel ... We need proof of this commitment now," Sembiring said.

Many carried large Palestinian flags, party flags and large banners and posters. *AFP*

## EU worried by likely dumping of constitution by French voters

LUXEMBOURG—European Union partners voiced concern on Saturday over growing opposition in France to the EU's first constitution, stressing there was no fallback plan if ratification is rejected in a May referendum.

Founding heavyweight France is the second EU state after Spain to put the bloc's first charter to a popular vote, on May 29, and an opinion poll published on Saturday showed 56 percent of French voters plan to say "No." Senior EU leaders said that such a political earthquake would plunge the 25-nation bloc into uncertainty. Fear of such an outcome prompted EU foreign ministers, meeting in Luxembourg, to rally behind their French colleague, Michel Barnier.

"If France votes no, it will be difficult in Europe," Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jean Asselborn told reporters. "I am convinced the French will make the right choice."

Luxembourg holds the EU's rotating presidency until the end of June and would have to cope with the fallout of a negative vote in France.

Poland said a French "No" would not only spark a crisis, but could split the EU and throw integration into reverse.

"The consequences of not ratifying the European constitution will be a crisis and the possibility of divisions within the Union. It will create concepts of a two- or more-tiered Europe," Polish Prime Minister Marek Belka said in Warsaw.

Slovenian Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel echoed this sentiment in Luxembourg, saying: "I am extremely worried ... Politically this would be a disaster."

Barnier voiced confidence that the bad mood in France could be turned around before polling day, but a live television campaign debate with French President Jacques Chirac on Friday failed to convince voters. *Reuters*

So many **great** reasons for her to take up a **business** course at the

International Academy of Management & Economics

**LSE** Finish a **Bachelor's degree** from the University of London under the **London School of Economics.** Local classes are available for Philippine based students.

**AMA** **American Management Association** certificates are recognized by **employers** worldwide. Courses focus on giving success skills in the workplace.

WARNBOROUGH COLLEGE 1973 After doing a 6-month course, students will *fly to the UK* to undergo a 6-month **practical paid internship** with leading **hotels** in the **UK** tied up with Warnborough College of Canterbury, Certified ISO9001:2000.

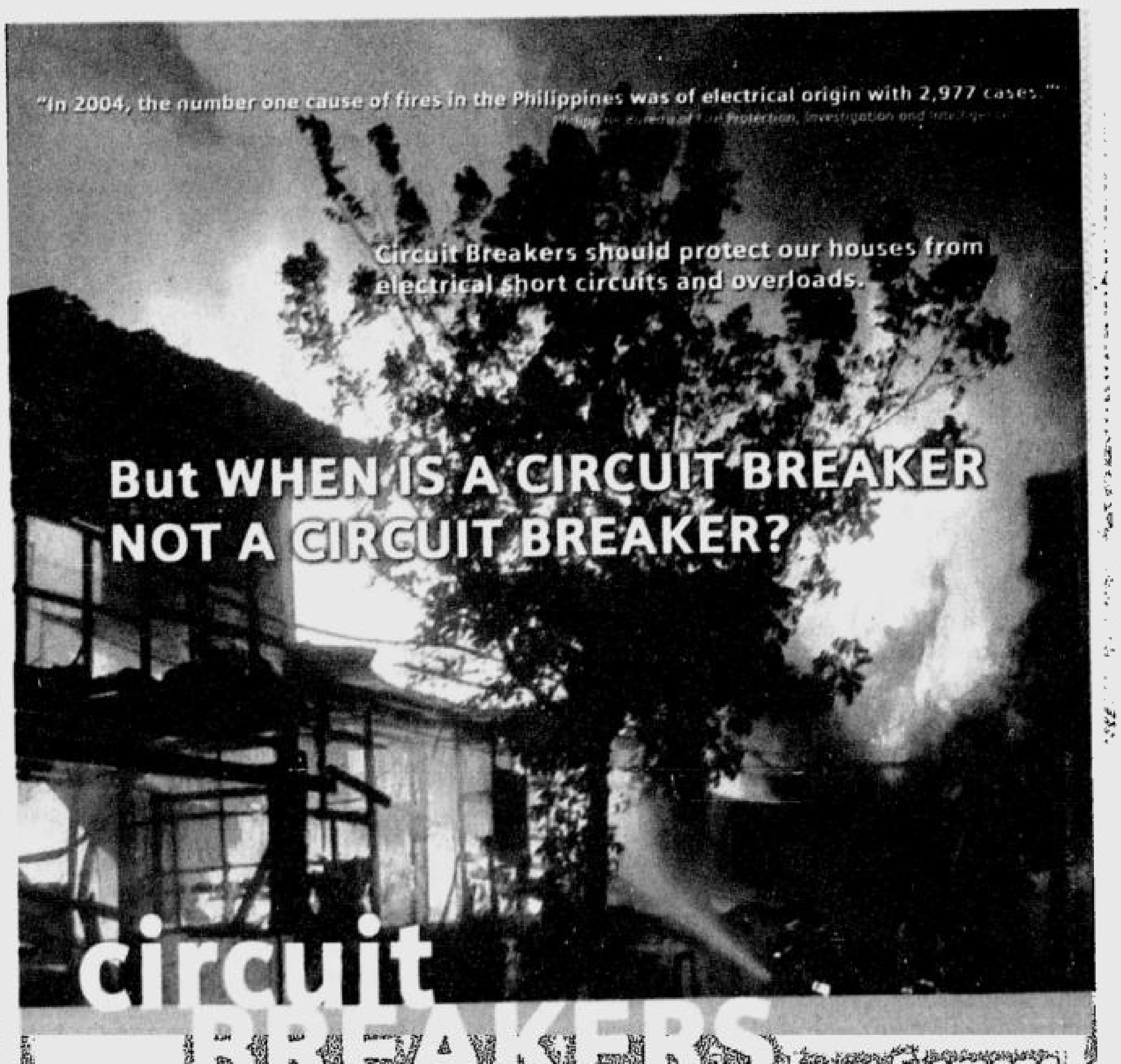
Business education is too serious to be merely appended to the offerings of schools whose main expertise lies in IT or Nursing. IAME is the oldest international business school in the country operating from Makati CBD since 1985 with the only fully ladderized set of CHED recognized programs, which include:

**• Diploma • BSBA • MBA • EMBA • Ph.D.**

Starting SY 2005-2006, IAME will be offering new courses:

**• BS in Accountancy • BS in Customs Administration**
**• BS Public Administration • AB Corporate Communications**

Reserve a slot! Call now! **7572608 or 09 (loc. 12)/8962355/58**
Visit us at **1061 Metropolitan Avenue (left off Ayala Ave. ext.), San Antonio Village, Makati City 1200 Philippines**
SMS us by typing: Inquire+(Your Question) to **09165142070**
Email us at: **testing@iame.edu.ph** Log on: **www.iame.edu.ph**


"In 2004, the number one cause of fires in the Philippines was of electrical origin with 2,977 cases."
Circuit Breakers should protect our houses from electrical short circuits and overloads.
But WHEN IS A CIRCUIT BREAKER NOT A CIRCUIT BREAKER?
circuit BREAKERS from Siemens

**Not all circuit breakers sold in the Philippines are circuit breakers. So how do you know one from another?**

The U.S. National Electrical Code requires a residential circuit breaker to provide automatic overload and short circuit protection with manual operability in accordance to Underwriters Laboratories 489 safety standards. In the USA, only a UL 489 type tested device is a Circuit Breaker.

So how to tell a Circuit Breaker from a look alike? If it has the UL marking, you can be sure.

**Siemens Circuit Breakers - U.S. certified safety. Now in the Philippines**

**Switch to Siemens**

Authorized Distributors
NEMA Electric Company
Telephone (02) 531 4714
Fax (02) 532 6590

Wintrade Industrial Sales Corporation
Telephone (02) 521 7921
Fax (02) 521 0101

**SIEMENS**

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ISSN 0116-2642 INQUIRER Vol. 20 No. 129
Email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inq7.net
Text us your feedback: inquirer opi name/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at
•Chino Roces Ave corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
•P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City
•Our telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments
•Editorial Fax 897-4793 / 897-4794 •Advertising 897-4807
•Circulation 527-3342 / 527-3348 / 528-0183 / 528-0186 and 528-0213 / Fax: 528-02-34.

# OPINION

*Publisher* **Isagani Yambot**
*Editor in Chief* **Letty Jimenez-Magsanoc**
*Managing Editor* **Jose Ma. D. Nolasco**
*Associate Editor* **Abelardo S. Ulanday**
*Associate Editor for Readership* **Rosario A. Garcellano**
*News Editor* **Artemio T. Engracia Jr.** • *Chief, News Day Desk* **Nilo B. Paurom**
*Opinion Editor* **Jorge V. Aruta**
*National Editor* **Pergentino B. Bandayrel Jr.**
*City Editor* **Gerry Lirio**
*Senior Desk Editor* **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**
*Editorial Consultant* **Amando Doronila**
*Chief Photographer* **Ernie U. Sarmiento**
*Art & Design Director* **Lynett A. Villariba**

*Board Chairman* **Marixi R. Prieto**
*President* **Alexandra Prieto-Romualdez**
*Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing* **Renato R. Reinoso**
*Senior Vice President for Corporate Services* **David O. Valdes**
*VP for Advertising* **Felipe R. Olarte**
*AVP for Circulation* **Gloria P. Lardizabal**

All rights reserved. Except as permitted by law, no part of the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means stored in a database or retrieval system without its prior written permission.

## Holiness

**EDITORIAL**

ALL roads lead to Rome again today, when the first conclave in almost 30 years meets for the first time. It is unlikely, but not impossible, that the cardinals of the Roman Catholic Church will elect the next pope on the very first day. If modern conclave history is any guide, the first few ballots will follow a ceremonial tack; they will be in the nature of courtesy votes. After that, however, nobody knows.

Much of the commentary about the possible course of the conclave has been the religion-beat equivalent of political handicapping stories.

There is the demographic horse race: the number of Latin American cardinals edging that of the Italians; the United States bloc influential but unelectable. There is the Third World premium: the appeal of the first black pope from Africa, the fastest-growing part of the Church, and the logic behind the choice of a "radical" archbishop from Latin America. There is the conservative discount: Because the late Pope John Paul II named all but three of the 117 cardinals eligible to vote, the next pope will likely be doctrinally conservative as well. And so on.

But the plain truth is, nobody really knows.

Much attention has also been focused on the Church's needs. Several cardinals have expressed their preference for another "Great Communicator," a super-pastor who reaches out to the world the way the late Pope did. Others have pointed out the need for a pontiff who will reform the curia, the Vatican's labyrinthine bureaucracy. Still others have hinted that a pope with the diplomatic skill to dialogue with Islam and the moral courage to confront it if necessary is the kind of leader the Church needs at this juncture in history. And so forth.

There is also a school of thought that admires the late Pope for reaching out to millions, but finds him responsible for leaving behind an overly centralized organization that essentially ran the store while he was on the road.

There are many, in fact, who think that management expertise is the Roman Catholic Church's most urgent need. The Economist concludes its special report on the future of the Church, for instance, by giving the last word to those who advocate both mastery and reform of the Vatican bureaucracy. "Others, however, still feel that running a global organization with 4,700 senior executives (bishops) and 400,000 line managers (priests) requires a capable executive rather than a saintly pastor."

The famous British newspaper's many businessmen-readers will readily see the point. But it would be a terrible error to mistake the Church for a multinational business enterprise, or to sum up its most pressing concerns as a study in organizational development.

Organizationally, the thousands of dioceses around the world are independent of one another or of Rome. Their operating budgets, to give only one example, are not prepared in Rome and then funded by the Vatican. In fact, many dioceses especially in the wealthier countries have budgets bigger than that of the entire Vatican.

It is true that each bishop is personally appointed by the pope, but all dioceses operate on their own. It is not as if (and to extend the Economist's metaphor) bishops had to wait for Vatican approval before developing a branch site (a new church), offering a new product (a Bible study course), launching a new campaign (information about family planning), or reaching out to a new market (a basic ecclesial community).

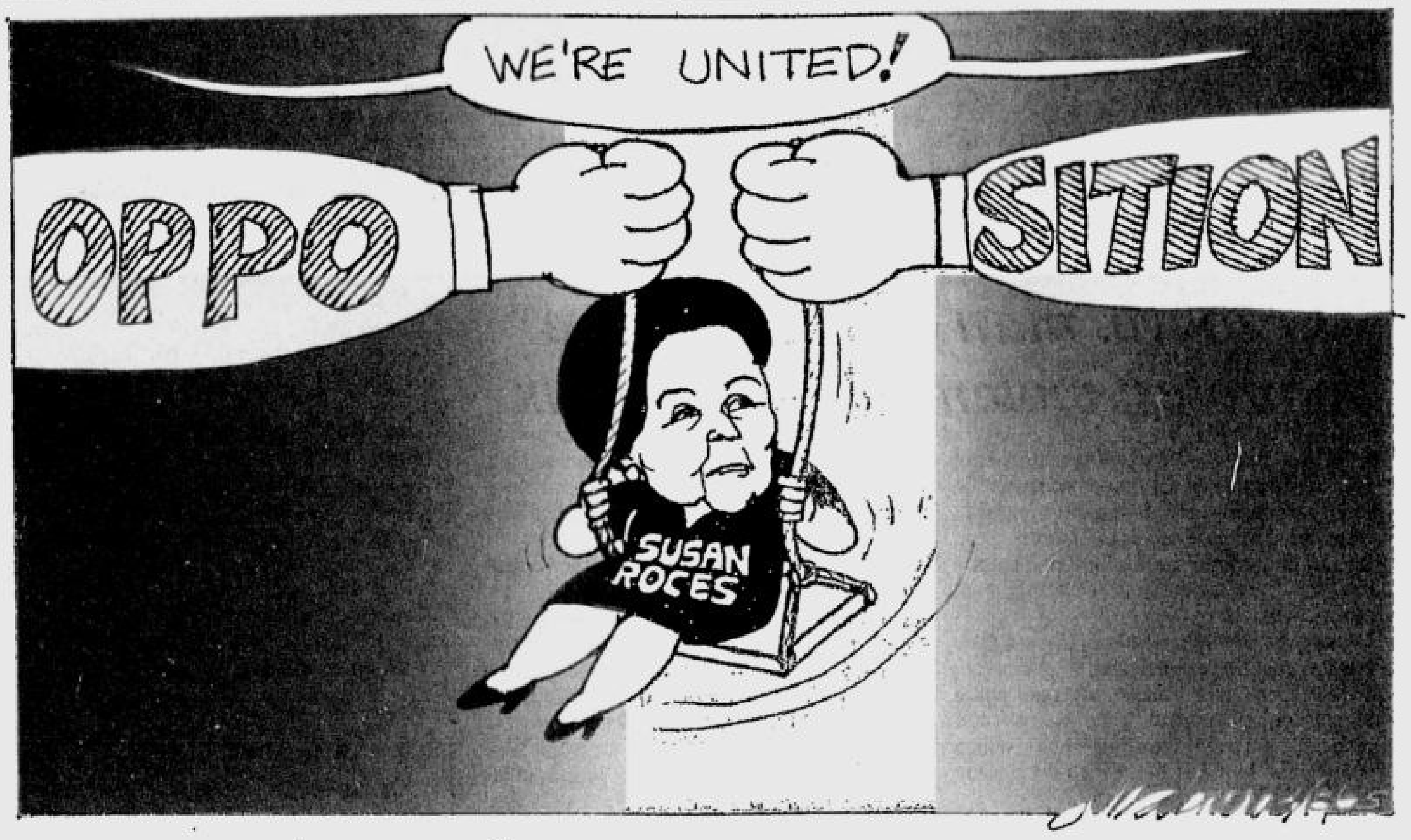
The emphasis on the Roman Catholic church as an enterprise or an organization thus misses its true nature as a community of faith—and the pope's principal role as chief priest.

"In the event of a deadlock, it has always been assumed that the conclave could turn to someone of great spirituality," the Economist writes.

But why should we assume that the cardinals would wait for a deadlock before choosing the next pope on the basis of his interior life? Why shouldn't we assume that, almost right from the start, the cardinals would choose according to the candidate's personal holiness?

"*Santo subito*," the crowd at Pope John Paul II's funeral chanted again and again. Make him a saint now. But they could very well have said: We need a saint now.

In truth, the Church needs "someone of great spirituality" to lead it in the first years of the third millennium. Without such a moral compass, it will lose its way in a spinning world.



## So much coco levy money attracts scavengers

**AS I SEE IT**

*Neal H. Cruz*

THE FLAP at the Philippine Coconut Authority was bound to happen as soon as the Supreme Court freed the hundreds of billions of pesos of coconut levy funds. The same way a rotting carcass attracts animal scavengers, so much money never fails to attract human scavengers (of which there are quite a number in the Arroyo administration) and fortune hunters. In fact, anybody who wants to get rich can just join the government: as a member of Congress or of the Cabinet; or even just as a minor factotum. That is why so many people run for public office; and even if they have been rejected by the voters, they nevertheless still get appointive positions for as long as they are members of the administration party.

What is the flap at the PCA about? Well, some fortune hunters want to spend P8.4 billion of the levy money of the coconut farmers for a seedling project in Agusan del Sur. PCA Administrator Evangeline Valbuena thinks it is too much and frowns on the project. Because of this, pressure was exerted on her to resign—which she did out of *delicadeza*. The way is now clear for a more cooperative successor to open the vault containing the P8.4 billion.

President Macapagal-Arroyo should reject her resignation and instead tell her to stay put—that is, if she herself is not a part of the conspiracy to make the coconut farmers part with P8.4 billion of their money, and if she is sincere in her promise that she will stop wastage, corruption and abuse in her government. She needs more officials like Valbuena in her government.

What will people think if officials who are trying to save dwindling public funds are unceremoniously kicked out?

Valbuena's reasons for resisting the project are sensible. Except for a tiny portion of less than 5 percent, the 110,000-hectare, denuded, logged-over area in Agusan del Sur and neighboring provinces (so much for the claim that loggers reforest their logged-over concessions) to be developed into a coco seedling farm is not suitable for coconut plants. The place is very far from coconut plantations or farms such that the costs for the transportation of the seedlings will be prohibitive. Pouring P8.4 billion in just one area is too much. Better to scatter the seedling banks in several areas nearer to farms suitable for coconuts; this way, more farms and people will be benefited.

Besides, the land in question is a subject of a jurisdiction dispute involving the Department of Agrarian Reform, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and indigenous peoples.

And why is there no transparency?

As Valbuena herself revealed, "legal and technical documents—all public records—indicate that such project should not have been contemplated in the first place. The fact that there was a meeting of the minds to embark on such is what bears illumination."

* * *

"It's a geriatric outburst typical of senior citizens like us," joked Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. of the decision of Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile to quit the opposition bloc in the Senate. Enrile is the oldest member of the Senate.

Any psychologist will tell you that being "*matampuhin*" (to feel hurt easily) is a characteristic of senior citizens. It is human nature and should be treated with patience and understanding.

If you'll remember, JPE was also irked by the comment of a lawyer of the Standard Chartered Bank that the Senate investigation of the bank was not in aid of legislation but "in aid of collection." That comment caused the 14 executives of the bank to be cited for contempt and to be locked up for six hours in a small room in the Senate parking lot. What he meant, SCB's lawyer, Gerry Geronimo, explained was not the unsavory connotation that the senators understood. What he said was this: "although purportedly being held in aid of legislation, (the investigation) is, in reality, a furtherance or in concert with civil, criminal, and administrative suits already with the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts—in aid of collection, as they were, of purported damages and paper losses." The comment might have been witty, but it was contemptuous, in the opinion of the senators.

It was Enrile who had delivered the privilege speech accusing the SCB of, among other charges, selling unregistered securities. That speech prompted the Senate investigation.

The two persons who originally leveled the charges against SCB were really trying to collect damages and paper losses from their investments in the bank. According to Senate and court records, they were: Manuel Baviera, a former vice president of the bank for five and a half years, who was terminated in August 2003 for "loss of trust and confidence." He had invested $8,000 in the bank, but the investment went sour and he lost $4,000. He said the bank had verbally promised him a return of 40 percent on his investment. He sued and demanded a settlement of $2 million.

The other complainant, the records said, was lawyer Mark Bocobo, who brought the case (sale of unregistered securities by SCB) to the Senate. In 2000, he had invested $100,000 in SCB. He closed it in 2002 when its value dropped. On Oct. 13, 2003, the bank received a letter from Bocobo's lawyers demanding full reimbursement of his $100,000 investment, with interest, plus P50 million in damages. The bank said Bocobo has yet to file a formal complaint against SCB.

The same records also showed that Baviera had filed seven cases against the bank. Five of them had already been dismissed in favor of the bank. Only two are still pending.

## Postscript

**THERE'S THE RUB**

*Conrado de Quiros*

I CAUGHT snatches of local TV programs that featured the Filipino contingent that went to Rome to attend the wake and burial of Pope John Paul II. It was no small invasion—a horde of Filipino officials, led by the President herself. There were no reports of Mike Arroyo landing $20,000-a-night accommodations, the competition was probably fierce. Church officials were there plentifully, as were media reporters, the TV stations in particular vying with one another to give as blow-by-blow an account of the event, as seen from Filipino eyes.

One station proudly said it would remain in the Vatican—one of its top people was still there, keeping the fort with burning candle (and pizza)—until a new pope was elected; this the station owed to the only Catholic country in Asia.

The show of *pakikiramay*, the outpouring of love and sympathy for the deceased was not without its touching aspects. If any people know how to pour out their hearts in times like this, we do. We have a sense of family like no other, and feel a depth of compassion—quite apart from obligation—when we attend wakes. We are probably more dutiful and sincere about attending wakes than we are about attending weddings and birthdays. In the case of some wakes, we are a lot more grateful.

It's a sentiment the Filipino hosts themselves understand fully. It's the Italians who have given the word "family" whole new meanings, benign and terrifying. An Italian friend of mine laughed out loud when I told him I had read somewhere that Jesus Christ was really an Italian. Proof of it being that: One, he was still living with his parents at 30; two, his mother thought he was God; and three, he thought his mother was a virgin. I know the pious will recoil at the joke, but I have a religious Italian at least to show it's funny.

But here's the part that's not so funny: The good news is that we are good at making *pakikisama*; the bad news is that we are good at making *pakikisama*. No, that is not a misprint: That is the good news and the bad news. That is how we relate to ourselves, and that is how we relate to the world. Which is the part even Italians will not understand. They too have a profound sense of family, but they can think beyond family. They too have a profound sense of personal relations, but they can think beyond personal relations. They too have a profound sense of emotion and symbolism, but they can think beyond emotion and symbolism. In fact, they can think, period—something we are hard put to do. They can exercise their rational faculties and see principle, idea and spirit. Lest we forget, they invented civilization, after the Greeks.

Our outpouring of grief and commiseration had very little to do with what this Pope in particular was, or stood for. We grieved for his death, and sent a slew of professional mourners to display it, for reasons other than that we believed in him and longed to live in his light. We did so because: he had visited our country a couple of times (as officials pointed out), because he had a special place for us in his heart (as one bishop put it), because he was a personal friend (as Jaime Cardinal Sin revealed, the Pope was once his roommate), because we are the only Catholic country in Asia (giving whole new meanings to "catholic"), because he was our spiritual father (to love but not to obey). We did so, in short, because, as with American presidents, we believed we had "special relations" with him.

The only one who suggested that the Pope was sorely to be missed because he had been a driving force in our lives was GMA herself. And she did so for the most bizarre or—as Didagen Dilangalen put it—self-serving reasons. She personally missed the Pope, she said, because it was the Pope who convinced her to break off with Erap and join the fight to topple him. An astounding statement in itself, quite apart from whether it really happened or not. It makes you ask: Was that why it took her so long to do so? If the Pope had not given divine sanction, or earthly backing, wouldn't she have done so? And all the while we thought it was People Power that brought her to power. Turns out it was Papal Power.

I'm not knocking our extravagant efforts to proclaim to the world that the Pope was family and we are stricken by his loss. I'm not knocking the way the networks have covered the event and pressed relentlessly on in the aftermath. But wouldn't we show a loftier sense of bereavement—or at least wouldn't we look less silly—if we just proclaimed that the Pope might be gone but he lives in our hearts? If we proclaimed that henceforth we are turning away from the culture of war, with all its hatred and bigotry, and deafness to other people's cries, and embracing the culture of peace, with all its tolerance, understanding, and respect for those who are different from us? If we proclaimed that we were turning away from the culture of death, from the fetid smell of corruption and rottenness and decay, and embracing the culture of life, the power of creation over destruction? Those were what the Pope stood for.

Which is the better way to honor a great man when he dies? Fighting to get to the head of the line filing past his coffin, and saying to anyone who cares to listen you knew him well, you were *malakas* with him, you are beside yourself with grief which you show by going to his *lamay* every night and shedding copious (if scaly) tears? Or by sitting quietly among the pews and saying to yourself he isn't really gone, he lives in you, though you are small and insignificant compared to him, and are capable only of refracting his dazzling light by the quality of your own life?

I don't know, but the first seems just a lot of papal bull.

# Winding up my notes on JPII

**POLITICAL TIDBITS**

*Belinda Olivares-Cunanan*

AS I wind up my notes on the funeral of John Paul II, I cannot help but admire the fantastic organization that Rome and the Vatican mounted to cope with the massive crowds that paid their last respects to the third longest reigning, and possibly best loved, pope in history. Of course, the two states have had a lot of experience in handling huge crowds in recent years, notably at the canonization of St. Josemaria Escriva of the Opus Dei and Padre Pio, and at the beatification of Mother Teresa. But the four million people that the Pope's funeral drew from all corners of the world—including 200 world leaders (enough to hold a United Nations conference there)—formed crowds far beyond in size than any previously seen. As the Italian authorities said, it was like organizing the Millennium Jubilee in 48 hours! And yet everything went like clockwork.

* * *

**To protect the world leaders and the crowds, concealed surface-to-air missiles were reportedly stationed across the city; a warship patrolled off the coast and helicopters and warplanes were on standby, while over 6,500 security troops guarded the capital. For the funeral, the authorities banned all cars from the streets; and public offices, schools and many shops closed. To disperse the crowds away from St. Peter's Square, they put up 24 giant screens all over the city to show live the three-hour funeral.**

* * *

The Poles, who revere JPII as their savior against communism, flocked to Rome, and two million of them made a huge show of force in St. Peter's Square, waving a myriad of red and white Polish flags during his funeral. Many of them drove 26 hours straight from Karol Wojtyla's birthplace in Poland. Italian authorities, worried about where they would stay, stopped them kilometers away from Rome. But the Poles were prepared to rough it out in sleeping bags and tents in the Rome's sidewalks and parks in the cold spring weather.

* * *

**At the Mass celebrated for JPII by the Filipino community at the Santa Maria Maggiore Basilica, we met a group of Filipino dentists (among them Dr. Manuel Cunanan), who flew in from Rhode Island, United States. It took them 16 hours lining up at St. Peter's to view the remains of JPII.**

* * *

The authorities tried to discourage pilgrims from descending on the Vatican, but the crew of the Philippine Airlines plane, which flew President Macapagal-Arroyo to Rome, wouldn't be talked out of it. Stewardess Rosan Magdaluyo Fernandez, who received Holy Communion from JPII in Rome on Easter Sunday of 1992, related how the hotel people in Ostia (the port city next to Rome) where they were billeted, stressed the sheer folly of trying to get to the Vatican on the eve of JPII's funeral. But the PAL crew felt that they wouldn't feel right if they didn't see even just the dome of St. Peter's Basilica on that historic day. Rosan was tuned in to CNN's death watch when she suddenly got a call to prepare for the President's flight to Rome.

Braving the traffic to downtown Rome, the PAL crew got to St. Peter's, only to be told that the authorities had already closed the viewing lines. They were already feeling hopeless when suddenly, the authorities opened the lines again. It took them another five hours to see the Pope.

* * *

**The Philippine ambassadors to the Quirinale and the Vatican, Philippe Luillihier and Leonida Vera, respectively, have to be congratulated for coordinating the RP delegation's visit in so short a time. Orchids too, to RP consul general in Los Angeles, Marcial Paynor who, as before, walked through the nitty-gritty of GMA's Rome visit, and to hardworking Palace chief of protocol, Lingling Lacanlale, for ironing out the details from the Manila end.**

* * *

Ambassador Luillihier arranged the luncheon tendered for GMA and her official party by Italian Parliament President Pier Ferdinando Casini, in coordination with Speaker Jose de Venecia in Manila. Later, Ambassadors Luillihier and Vera co-hosted a dinner for the RP group (that included CBCP president Fernando Capalla and Bishop Antonio Ledesma of the Ipil Diocese) at the beautiful centuries-old chateau which is set on one of Rome's many hills, called Villa Macchia, once a hunting ground. Philippe and Edna Luillihier know the owners well, and the former joked to GMA that "at least now you are on very much higher ground than President Bush. At that moment, the Bush delegation was dining with Italian President Silvio Berlusconi in a restaurant on a much lower hill.

Ambassador Vera coordinated the visit of the entire delegation to the Vatican. She produced the "major miracle" of shepherding all of us through the Vatican's backdoor, reserved only for the red-hat crowd, so we didn't have to wait anywhere like 5-16 hours to view the Pope's remains.

* * *

**The RP delegation arrived in Rome at 6:30 a.m. April 7. At 6 p.m. April 8, we left for Manila. The 36 hours we spent in Rome were so packed with activities that we didn't even have time to buy souvenirs of the Pope's funeral. Like all the RP media there, Cecile Alvarez and I were extra-busy broadcasting over dzRH and other radio stations—our calls courtesy of Globe Telecom.**

**On that trip we saw GMA's legendary stamina up close. At the Villa Macchia dinner, Archbishop Capalla could barely keep his eyes open. But GMA was very much awake as the entire group sang a belated Happy Birthday to her. On the plane to Manila, she dozed off and on, but just before landing, she changed into pants and a white cotton shirt, and upon landing went straight to Farmer's Market with Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap and Sen. Mar Roxas to check on prices and delivery of commodities.**

# Economics of domestic violence

**KRIS-CROSSING MINDANAO**

*Carlos Isagani T. Zarate*

"WE are disheartened," complained women's rights activist Lyda Canson in her April 9 letter to Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte. Canson, chair of the women's group Gabriela-Southern Mindanao, was pleading for Duterte's intervention in exempting battered women from paying the increased cost of court fees, citing that this deterred the victims from seeking judicial relief against abusive husbands and partners.

Despite the "good laws" aimed at protecting victims of violence in our country, Canson complained, their genuine implementation and administration are "sorely lacking." She claimed that some cases filed by battered women before the Davao courts were not pursued by the victims simply because they could not afford filing costs and other related expenses.

At present, a victim wanting, for instance, to avail of a protection order from the court, as provided by Republic Act No. 9262 or the Violence Against Women and Children (VAWC) law, has to raise a minimum amount of P3,000 for the filing, sheriff and other court fees. The court personnel "insist [on] the filing fees to be paid first, otherwise protection orders are not issued," Canson told Duterte in her letter.

Canson's grievances proved to be ominous. Last Tuesday afternoon, a 30-year-old housewife was declared dead on arrival at the Davao Medical Center after she was badly beaten allegedly by her husband. Witnesses claimed that despite repeated pleas from the wife, who was also screaming for help, the husband kicked her and banged her head on the wall until she fell unconscious. Seeing his wife dead, the husband fled, bringing with him their 3-year-old child.

This is the first reported case of domestic violence that has resulted in death this year in Davao City. A battered wife for years, neighbors claimed the woman had been advised to seek legal help but opted not to, saying she could not afford the expenses.

"[Her] violent death may be the first but definitely will not be the last case," lamented lawyer Angela Librado-Trinidad, chair of the Committee on Women, Children and Family Relations of the Davao City Council. Not only that, battered women have to hurdle the emotional trauma and pressures in pursuing their cases. "They, particularly the poor, have the additional burden of raising money to shoulder the payment for court fees and other litigation expenses," Trinidad said. The city government, she said, will soon hire lawyers willing to handle VAWC cases, if only to help the victims.

* * *

Speaking of legal fees, the Supreme Court dismissed last Jan. 25 the petition filed by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, questioning the constitutionality of Republic Act No. 9227 and its implementing issuances, which allow higher court fees.

The SC's dismissal was based on the Jan. 13, 2005 IBP resolution withdrawing the organization's petition. The withdrawal was filed with the SC by six of the IBP's 10 governors, including IBP national president Jose Cadiz. Only lawyers Leonard de Vera, IBP executive vice president and governor for Eastern Mindanao, and Carlos Valdez, governor for Western Mindanao, objected to the withdrawal of the petition. Central Luzon governor Dante Ilaya, the petition's proponent, failed to attend the said meeting, but immediately wrote Cadiz to express his "vehement protest" against the withdrawal.

As expected the withdrawal of the IBP's original petition also caused an uproar and met with strong disapproval from the different IBP chapters around the country. It is interesting to note that the IBP chapters were not told about the withdrawal; in contrast, when the original petition was filed before the SC on Sept. 21, 2004—with lawyers led by Cadiz marching to and holding a rally at the Batasang Pambansa—the different IBP chapters were asked by the national office to also undertake protest actions.

De Vera, also the lead counsel in the petition, claimed that he learned of the dismissal only last April 9, during the monthly meeting of the IBP board of governors. "I was surprised to learn that there was already a dismissal as early as Jan. 25," De Vera said, adding that he was not given a copy of the order of dismissal received earlier by the IBP national office.

De Vera's frustrations are understandable. Unaware of the dismissal of the IBP's original petition, he, Valdez, Ilaya and IBP-Western Visayas governor Immanuel Sodusta, as individual petitioners, filed with the high court last Feb. 10 their opposition to the withdrawal of the original petition. In addition, on March 21, they submitted to the SC copies of the various resolutions from the different IBP chapters all over the country, supporting their position.

De Vera said the thrust of the petition is for the SC to ascertain the constitutionality of Congress allowing the increase in the "allowances" of the members of the judiciary through the collections of higher court fees and the imposition of new ones. "We are supportive of the long delayed increases in the salaries of the members of the judiciary. But, this must be sourced out from and prioritized in the national budget, not in the guise of allowances and increased fees that unduly burdened only the litigants," De Vera said.

The "definitive resolution" of the constitutional issues raised in the IBP petition would have also been the benchmark in the resolution of like issues—also involving fees imposed by the Department of Justice for criminal cases filed with prosecution offices. But with the SC's dismissal of the IBP's original petition, it appears that these constitutional questions will be left unanswered. At least, for now. "If need be, we will refile the petition with the support of the different chapters," De Vera vowed.

* * *

Comments at kar_laws@yahoo.com

# Oaths and bells

**THE LONG VIEW**

*Manuel L. Quezon III*

AT 6:30 p.m. Manila time today, a special "Mass to Elect a Roman Pontiff" will be held in Rome. By then, the cardinal electors would have settled into their accommodations in the Domus Sanctae Marthae; for nine days they have borne the following oath required of them by the regulations set forth by John Paul II, in mind: "I, N.N., promise and swear that, unless I should receive a special faculty given expressly by the newly-elected Pontiff or by his successors, I will observe absolute and perpetual secrecy with all who are not part of the College of Cardinal electors concerning all matters directly or indirectly related to the ballots cast and their scrutiny for the election of the Supreme Pontiff.

"I likewise promise and swear to refrain from using any audio or video equipment capable of recording anything which takes place during the period of the election within Vatican City, and, in particular, anything which in any way, directly or indirectly is related to the process of the election itself. I declare that I take this oath fully aware that an infraction thereof will make me subject to the spiritual and canonical penalties which the future Supreme Pontiff will see fit to adopt, in accordance with Canon 1399 of the Code of Canon Law.

"So help me God and these Holy Gospels which I touch with my hand."

According to Vatican watchers, such as the staff of Inside the Vatican Magazine, the cardinal electors have been meeting in small groups to get to know each other and to engage in informal discussions on the future of the Roman Catholic Church. They have prayed at the tomb of the late pope, and just last Saturday, formally put a close to his reign by witnessing the destruction of John Paul II's Fisherman's Ring and the lead seal for authenticating documents—itself a departure from tradition. (The destruction of these symbols of office were usually done immediately after the pope's death, and the fragments were placed in the pope's coffin.) I presume they had to use the seals to ratify the Pope's death-bed appointments.

The Mass for the intention of electing a new pope has been preceded by a summons to the faithful, asking all the clergy and laity of Rome to participate in the event: "The entire Church… lifts humble and insistent prayers to the Lord, that He may illuminate the minds of the electors and bring them to agreement, in order to obtain a prompt and unanimous election of the new Pope."

At around 10:30 p.m. Manila time, the cardinal electors will proceed to the Sistine Chapel to begin the conclave: a solemn procession, led by priests and deacons carrying a cross and the Gospels, accompanied by the singing of the "Litany of the Saints" (which has become so familiar to people since the Pope's death), will enter the chapel from the Hall of Blessings. Then, the ancient chant "Veni Creator Spiritus," or "Come, Holy Spirit," will be sung, and the cardinals will take two solemn oaths; first, to adhere to the regulations governing papal elections handed down by John Paul II; second, to "promise, pledge and swear, as individuals and as a group, to observe faithfully and scrupulously the prescriptions contained in the Apostolic Constitution of the Supreme Pontiff John Paul II, Universi Dominici Gregis, published on 22 February 1996"; to "promise, pledge and swear that whichever of us by divine disposition is elected Roman Pontiff will commit himself faithfully to carrying out the munus Petrinum of Pastor of the Universal Church and will not fail to affirm and defend strenuously the spiritual and temporal rights and the liberty of the Holy See"; to "promise and swear to observe with the greatest fidelity and, with all persons, clerical or lay, secrecy regarding everything that in any way relates to the election of the Roman Pontiff and regarding what occurs in the place of the election, directly or indirectly related to the results of the voting" and "not to break this secret in any way, either during or after the election of the new Pontiff, unless explicit authorization is granted by the same Pontiff; and never to lend support or favor to any interference, opposition or any other form of intervention, whereby secular authorities of whatever order and degree or any group of people or individuals might wish to intervene in the election of the Roman Pontiff."

The cardinal electors, according to the order of precedence (rank and seniority), will then formalize the oath according to the following formula: "And I, [first name] Cardinal [family name], do so promise, pledge and swear"—then, placing his hand on the Gospels, conclude—"So help me God and these Holy Gospels which I touch with my hand."

After this oath, the conclave begins. John Paul II's many, and rigorous, rules include the following:

"I therefore decree that for the valid election of the Roman Pontiff two-thirds of the votes are required, calculated on the basis of the total number of electors present.

"Should it be impossible to divide the number of Cardinals present into three equal parts, for the validity of the election of the Supreme Pontiff, one additional vote is required."

The cardinals will begin every voting day with a Mass at 1:30 p.m. Manila time. At 3 p.m. Manila time, every day, they will be in the Sistine Chapel; they are expected to have two ballots in the morning and two in the afternoon. Vatican watchers expect that if any announcement—via the traditional black (no pope yet) and white (we have a pope!) smoke signals from the Sistine Chapel roof—are going to be made, it would come either at 6 p.m. or 1 a.m. Manila time.

* * *

*Comments welcome at www.quezon.ph*

# Missing the point

**COMMENTARY**

*Luis V. Teodoro*

DESPITE martial law in the Philippines and the defeat of the United States and its favored regime in Vietnam in 1975, is the Armed Forces of the Philippines still missing the point?

AFP intelligence does seem to be familiar with events in Vietnam, where the communist-led National Liberation Front (or the "Viet Cong" as the United States referred to them) won power in 1975. But a media briefing by a Philippine Navy intelligence officer last week didn't mention the country's own martial law experience at all—an experience that has its own lessons to offer.

The officer briefed the media on the controversial "Knowing the Enemy: Are We Missing the Point" briefing paper, parts of which the AFP released last week. The officer warned that something like the Tet offensive in Vietnam and an uprising similar to what happened in Russia in 1917 could happen in the Philippines.

While the Bolshevik triumph in Russia created the first socialist state in history, the Vietnamese experience is more relevant to the Philippine situation. The Communist Party-led New People's Army is waging a guerrilla war along the lines waged by the Viet Cong. But the Vietnamese experience is also relevant in another sense.

In the late 1960s, the US Central Intelligence Agency, together with the armed forces of the US-backed South Vietnamese regime, launched Operation Phoenix, a program for the systematic assassination of Viet Cong cadres and sympathizers. When the program officially ended in 1971, it had outrightly killed or tortured to death some 40,000 Vietnamese, mostly civilians and non-combatants. Those killed included village leaders, students, women—anyone suspected of collaborating with, or of being sympathetic to, the Viet Cong.

The March 1968 massacre of over 500 women, children and elderly men in the tiny village of My Lai was part of Operation Phoenix. In that incident, the US soldiers responsible claimed they had received "intelligence" that the only people who would be in My Lai on the day of the attack would be hard-core Viet Cong guerrillas.

Of added interest for Filipinos is the claim in some US publications that the killing, torture and forced disappearances of suspected NPA cadres and sympathizers in rural Philippines during the martial law period were part of a Philippine counterpart program. But what is of equal interest is that the ongoing killing of aboveground activists who are either leaders or members of legal organizations seems to echo Operation Phoenix. Although on a scale lower than the Vietnam War atrocities, the killings began in 2001 and their number has dramatically risen in the last few weeks.

They have become sufficiently numerous to revive memories of martial law. During that period, an average of three non-combatants a week were being killed by the Marcos military. As of March, however, seven people a week were being killed on average, all of them members or leaders of legal, including party-list, organizations, which the AFP claims to be communist fronts.

The irony is that in Vietnam during the US presence, as well as in the Philippines during the US-supported martial law regime, state terror in the form of assassinations, torture and forced disappearances didn't work.

The United States lost a war for the first time in its history, driven out of Vietnam, and the regime it supported fell. The Marcos regime collapsed despite the elaborate machinery of repression the military had created. Along the way, the repression managed to help transform the New People's Army from a rag-tag army of 70 in 1971 to a force the military estimated at 26,000 in 1986.

In both instances the point seemed clear: repression doesn't end rebellion; it encourages resistance. It does kill people, but invites legions to take their place. It's simple enough for even morons to understand. The violence of repression gives people no other option except to use violence themselves.

Together with the signal lesson that repression breeds resistance rather than surrender is the lesson that allowing dissent and encouraging reform can be anti-theses to revolution. Dissent convinces people that a political and social system, no matter how seemingly reprehensible, is not without hope. On the other hand, reforms, even of the most cosmetic kind, imply that the same system can work.

The point seemed to have been well demonstrated and understood for the United States to reverse its 1960s-1970s policy of supporting right-wing dictatorships, including those in Latin America and Asia, where the most prominent were those of Marcos in the Philippines and Suharto in Indonesia.

Since the 1980s, the United States has exerted every effort to prove that it's on the side of democracy and liberty, rather than on the side of dictatorship and tyranny, and it has counseled its client states to behave accordingly. Even the Bush administration still declares support for democracy as official policy while laying waste that democratic precept called self-determination. But the behavior of its Philippine client, the Arroyo government, suggests a return to the tactics of old in addressing insurgencies.

What has raised alarm bells about the AFP's "Knowing the Enemy" briefing is precisely that implication. The briefing was prepared and is being disseminated in the context of the ongoing assassinations of legal, aboveground activists, whose organizations it identifies as CPP fronts.

Indeed, the killings and the identification of these organizations as CPP fronts suggest that the AFP, rather than focusing on defeating the NPA on the battlefield, is concentrating on the so-called "legal machinery" of the CPP. If the killing of activists and the demonization of sectoral and media organizations, and even of Church groups, indicate anything, it is the radical shift of government policy from its random intolerance of dissent in the past to intensified repression. If this is the case, both the Philippine government and its military arm could be, once again, missing the point.

*Luis V. Teodoro, is a professor of journalism at the University of the Philippines.*

## THEY SAID

### Significant

"He was not only a great moral and religious figure but he was also a very significant political figure in the best sense of the term."

*—Australian Prime Minister John Howard on Pope John Paul II*

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

# Our teachers' poor comprehension

THIS is a reaction to the news item "Graduating students read poorly—DepEd." (PDI, 3/14/05) According to Undersecretary Juan Miguel Luz of the Department of Education, the poor reading skills and reading comprehension of schoolchildren are the offshoots of (1) the poor quality of teaching; (2) lack of books and educational materials; (3) overcrowded classrooms; and (4) undeveloped reading habits of students at home.

Let me put the issue in another perspective: We have excellent, versatile, innovative and creative teachers, otherwise those who seek greener pastures abroad would not be accredited to teach there.

Teaching skills are not a problem among our teachers, but they have to catch up on reading comprehension. The results of the Self-Assessment Test (SAT) among secondary school teachers have shown this. Even school administrators in the field (school heads and division superintendents) need to catch up on reading comprehension. They don't seem to really understand the DepEd policy (DepEd Order No. 8, s 2005) prohibiting public schools from collecting graduation fees or any kind of contribution for graduation rites. ("Gov't schools reminded not to collect graduation fees," PDI, 3/29/05)

And usually, the school heads pass on the responsibility of sourcing the needed funds for graduation rites to the Grade 6 and fourth year high school advisers who, in turn, collect from parents of graduating pupils and students. Does this make sense in relation to DepEd Order No. 8, s 2005?

In other words, kids are not reading with comprehension because their models are not readers with excellent comprehension.

Second, we must look at the organizational structure and staffing pattern of our schools. In elementary schools, there is no allocation for a librarian. In the secondary level, supposedly there should be one librarian for every 1,000 students in a school. Donated books and materials may be available, but there's no professional staff to man the library.

There are purportedly satellite learning resource centers, but more often, they are poorly equipped, not functional, and good only during evaluation periods.

Third, our school system doesn't have enough good English grammar teachers. It is easier to find good English literature teachers. But we need grammar teachers.

Fourth, the medium of instruction in Aralin Panlipunan/Heograpiya, Kasaysayan at Sibika (HKS) is Filipino. Let us go back to the use of English as the medium of instruction in this learning area. Then the students would be trained to express themselves in English, thus making them more competitive.

—**REUBEN RAMOS,**
**24 A. Mabini St.,**
**2900 Laoag City**

# Ongpin, Borlongan and Rizal

THESE past two days, I have been suppressing a compulsion to write on the parallelism between Jimmy Ongpin, Ted Borlongan and Jose Rizal.

Jimmy Ongpin was a rare light in the Philippine corporate world. During the dark days of Marcos' rule, Jimmy—bright, brilliant, competent and courageous—and his Manindigan fought not in the boardrooms but in the streets, their boardroom personalities powdered by dust.

Yet at the height of his success, when freedom was again upon the land called Philippines, when the fullness of his professionalism and search for excellence could now be unleashed, Jimmy Ongpin was set aside.

Ted Borlongan had a similar career pattern. I don't know enough of his business affairs, but what I saw was a man who sought to excel for his country, his family and his people. I did not keep up with the legal or the corporate issues but from where I sat, Ted was a man who did his best and was compelled to retire before the harvest!

How searing to the soul must have been the common feeling of Jimmy Ongpin and Ted Borlongan. We often forget that it is people who are important. Political pragmatism cannot replace the caring for and nurturing of people. Money and influence cannot replace truth or principle.

Jose Rizal must have felt the same way. Excelling in many fields, besting his compatriots and European classmates, capturing the flowers of Heidelberg, then lingering in Hong Kong to enjoy his profession, Rizal came home after distilling his understanding of the Philippines in "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo." Banished to Dapitan, he could have chosen exile. But Rizal stayed and in final prayer he would say:

"… *A darte voy alegre la triste mustia vida;*
"*Y fuera mas brillante, mas fresca, mas florida,*
"*Tambien por ti la diera, la diera por tu bien.*"

("… For your dear sake seems it divine to die,
And were life fresher, brighter still would I
Walk on onward to the sacrifice."—from a translation by Nick Joaquin, 1969)

—**RAUL S. ROCO**

# Prudent use of our water resources

I READ about Neal Cruz's article on our problem with our water supply. (PDI, 4/4/05) He hit it right on the mark—bull's-eye, I would say.

Right now, water is flowing copiously, but the abundance could end soon. Before this happens, we must do something.

Here in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, there are desalination plants that turn sea water into two kinds of water: raw water and sweet water. Raw water is used to water plants or for radiators, etc. It is not for drinking. Sweet water, on the other hand, is for drinking, cooking and personal needs.

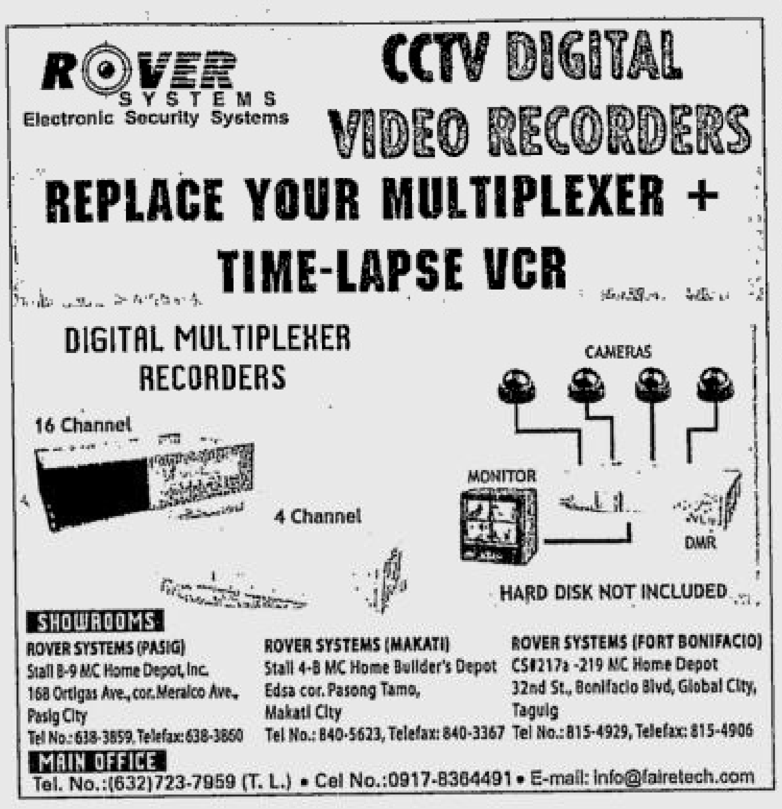
I'm very disappointed that we are consuming this resource of ours more than we need to, and also with the needless politicking of the Maynilad-MWSS privatization deals. We are running out of water.

May I call on everyone to use water prudently before we have to pay a high price for its use, like the people here in Saudi Arabia.

—**RICCI SANTIAGO,**
**tracy_santiago@hotmail.com**

PANAFLEX SIGNAGES
IN 5 HOURS OR LESS!
P520 /sq. ft. + VAT - B.I. Angle Bar Framing w/ G.I. Sheet sidings, Imported Sticker & Complete Lighting Fixture (SINGLE FACE)
P740 /sq. ft. + VAT - B.I. Angle Bar Framing w/ G.I. Sheet sidings, Imported Sticker & Complete Lighting Fixture (DOUBLE FACE)
NEGOTIABLE PRICE FOR VOLUME ORDERS
Includes: Approved Concept Design & Installation within Metro Manila only.
OTHER SERVICES OFFERED:
- BILLBOARD
- PHOTOGRAPHIC BILLBOARD
- DROP BANNER
- STANDEE DISPLAY
- PANAFLEX
- NEON SIGN
- PLASTIC SIGN
- DURATRANS
- WINDOW DISPLAY
- EXHIBIT DISPLAY
- RACK AND MODULE DISPLAY
- SHOWROOM DISPLAY
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- MASCOT FABRICATION
- SILKSCREEN PROCESS
- STREAMERS
- BANNERS
- STICKERS
- BUNTING
- OFFSET PRINTING
- BROCHURE
- FLYER
- LABEL
- CATALOGUE
- POSTER

COMPACT GRAPHICS
Advertising Design Services Inc.
For Inquiries pls. call: Ms. Marnie Alcala
Tel. nos.: 843-8715 • 887-3142 • 892-1728 • 887-1913


ROVER SYSTEMS
Electronic Security Systems
CCTV DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDERS
REPLACE YOUR MULTIPLEXER + TIME-LAPSE VCR
DIGITAL MULTIPLEXER RECORDERS
16 Channel
4 Channel
CAMERAS
MONITOR
DMR
HARD DISK NOT INCLUDED
SHOWROOMS
ROVER SYSTEMS (PASIG)
Stall 8-9 MC Home Depot, Inc.
168 Ortigas Ave., cor. Meralco Ave., Pasig City
Tel No.: 638-3859, Telefax: 638-3860
ROVER SYSTEMS (MAKATI)
Stall 4-B MC Home Builder's Depot
Edsa cor. Pasong Tamo, Makati City
Tel No.: 840-5623, Telefax: 840-3367
ROVER SYSTEMS (FORT BONIFACIO)
CS#217a -219 MC Home Depot
32nd St., Bonifacio Blvd, Global City, Taguig
Tel No.: 815-4929, Telefax: 815-4906
MAIN OFFICE
Tel. No.: (632)723-7959 (T. L.) • Cel No.: 0917-8384491 • E-mail: info@fairetech.com

PAY BILLS with BancNet pwede!
UTILITIES: MERALCO TELCOs: PLDT, Globe, Smart, Digitel, Innove, Extelcom, Eastern Telecoms, PT&T CABLE TV: SkyCable, Home Cable INTERNET: Infocom, Greendot LOANS: Citystate Loan, Standard Chartered EZ Loan AND SOON: Manila Water, Maynilad
CREDIT CARDS-MASTERCARD AND VISA: AIG, Bankard, Citibank, Metrobank, HSBC, Standard Chartered, East West Bank OTHER MAJOR CREDIT CARDS: Allied Bank VISA, Banco Filipino VISA, MMO Card, One Card International, SICC Diners and Mastercard
INSURANCE AND OTHER PRE-NEED COMPANIES: Fortune Care, Fortune Life, Lifetime Plans, Manila Bankers Life, Pacific Plans, Provident Plans, Prudentialife Plans, South Sea Insurance, Sun Life of Canada, Sun Life Financial Plans
CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS: Bantay Bata, Knowledge Channel, Piso Para Sa Pasig, Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, Far East Broadcasting MORE: PSC E-Pass Reload, Manila Memorial Park, Directories Philippines, FG Financial, NSO Helpline
Use your BancNet ATM card in over 2,000 ATMs nationwide or through www.bancnetonline.com
✓ No enrollment ✓ No transaction fees ✓ No worries

# SC justice gives Conrad the rub

MAY I comment on "Moving fingers" (PDI, 3/31/05), which appeared under Conrado de Quiros' column "There's the Rub." It seems to me, firstly, that the columnist has aptly titled his column, but he should keep the rubbing business all to himself, even if apparently he excels in it.

Secondly, the quatrain I used was downloaded from the Internet, as translated into "ascii in 1993" by Dave Gross, who entitled the collection as the "Rubayyat" (not "Rubaiyat").

Lastly, having been a working editor since my teens, I would certainly welcome De Quiros' and his patron's advice on literary matters. But probably his patron should advise him also on the limits of judicial power, for the columnist, perhaps, needs counseling on the subject.

—**LEONARDO A. QUISUMBING,**
**associate justice,**
**Supreme Court,**
**Padre Faura, Manila**

# A 'plastic' solution for creating jobs

VON Hernandez of Greenpeace International for South Asia may have an axe to grind against discarded plastic products for the continuing pollution of the environment. He has thus urged higher taxes on plastic to raise revenue for the government. (PDI, 3/21/05) Hernandez ought to be a bit less myopic and more pragmatic.

Plastic does not end up solely as "dirty packaging" items. The truth, is most plastic products do not become garbage. Plastic manufacturers could not care less if they were slapped higher taxes, because they would simply pass the additional taxes to their customers. Given the innumerable articles of commerce in the marketplace that come from plastic—from hair pin to comb to tables and chairs (ah, the list is endless!)—the inflationary aftermath of higher taxes on plastic surely needs no emphasis.

To compare plastic and "sin" products is also unarguably to compare apples and oranges. With deference, our well-meaning environmentalists do not certainly wish this country to go back to the good old days when practically all commodities were wrapped in paper, jute bags or banana leaves.

Having said the above, I have always wondered why the single largest contributors of plastic, styrofoam and other disposable packages harmful to the environment, i.e., fast-food shops that spring like mushrooms in urban and rural communities, have not come up with a relatively more eco-friendly alternative.

I mean, why couldn't they serve their dishes in traditional plates, cups and glasses by hiring additional dishwashers? (I know of one that does, but I won't mention it lest I be charged of advertising.) Of course, the immediate answer is labor cost-cutting, which is well taken for its beneficial effect on pricing.

But I am sure the public would not mind paying a few centavos more for a serving of hamburger, spaghetti or chicken in exchange for a simple measure of pollution control that would also somehow help minimize the country's unemployment problem.

—**RUDY L. CORONEL,**
**10 Venus St.,**
**Golden Country Homes,**
**Alangilan, Batangas City**

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER A17

**NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU**
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074)443-9255
Fax No. (074)443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com.ph

**SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU**
23 Aurora St., Old Albay District
Legazpi City
Tel. No. (052) 820-8402
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com.ph

E-mail: pr_provincial_news@inquirer.com.ph

Across the NATION

Text us your feedback: inquirer atn name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart) Assistant Editor **Tony Bergonia**

**VISAYAS BUREAU**
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: inq_cebu@inquirer.com.ph

**MINDANAO BUREAU**
FEP Printing Corp. Bldg.
Ma-a Road, Davao City
Tel. No. (082)244-1770 to 71
Fax No. (082)244-1771
E-mail: inq_davao@inquirer.com.ph

# 3 killed in ambush over land dispute

**By Tonette Orejas**
*PDI Central Luzon Desk*

**CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Suspected communist rebels on Saturday killed three farmers and wounded three others in an ambush in Cabiao, Nueva Ecija, police and Army reports said.**

The 4:30 p.m. attack at Sitio Villa Marina in Barangay Bagong Sikat in Cabiao killed Rogelio Santiago, former village chief of Barangay Bulak in Gapan City; and Carlito Santiago and Odi Simbulan of San Miguel, Bulacan, according to Chief Insp. Elsa Miranda, Cabiao police chief.

The police and the Army's 7th Infantry Division identified the wounded as Sgt. Ace York Gomez and Melchor Evangelista and Bernardo Pachecho, both farmers.

The military's Northern Luzon Command said Gomez, identified as a military intelligence operative, merely hitched on the victims' jeepney when they left the village.

"[Gomez] was in the area to check on the reported sightings of New People's Army rebels," Lt. Col. Preme Monta, Nolcom public information chief, said.

Rebels belonging to the Hukbong Mapagpalaya ng Bayan, the armed wing of the old Communist Party of the Philippines, were suspected to be behind the ambush, said Senior Supt. Alex Monteagudo, Nueva Ecija police director.

Reports identified the suspects as Armando Heron, also known as Kumander Rambo, John John Guintu, Eddie Villamayor and one Bilog Barlam.

The Army report said the rebels seized the firearms of the victims before fleeing toward La Paz, Tarlac, north of Cabiao.

HMB officials on Sunday had yet to claim or deny responsibility for the attack.

Cabiao Mayor Gloria Congco said it was the first violent incident in Bagong Sikat since the government converted the area into an agrarian reform community in 1998.

Located at the tri-boundary of Pampanga, Tarlac and Nueva Ecija, the village had served as a "gateway" for rebels, Congco said.

She said residents abandoned the area after World War II because of armed clashes there by government troops and guerrillas.

But the mayor said Bagong Sikat drew landless farmers as the peace and order situation improved in the area.

# Toxic waste victims offer prayers for Prince Rainier

OLONGAPO CITY—Some 300 victims of toxic waste contamination in the former American military bases in Clark and Subic on Friday mourned the death of Prince Rainier III, the father of Monaco's Princess Caroline.

News reports on the death of the longest reigning monarch in Monaco moved the families of the toxic wastes victims to organize the Misang Bayan at the San Lorenzo Ruiz Chapel here, offering a Mass, prayers and solidarity with the royal family.

Prince Rainier's daughter, Princess Caroline, has been supporting the cause of children made sick by toxic wastes left by the United States military in the Philippines.

The Mass was held several hours before the prince's burial on Friday.

Princess Caroline spent time with at least 500 children victims in two visits to Clark and Subic communities last year. *Allan Macatuno, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

# 4 teeners drown in Dagupan

DAGUPAN CITY—What was supposed to be a celebration on the beach turned tragic for the family of four teenagers who drowned while swimming in a beach in Tondaligan Park here on Saturday.

Police said siblings Romar, 15, and Rommel Viloria, 14, and their cousins Nesty de los Santos, 16, and Bernardo Ferrer Jr., 17, were swept by strong underwater current while swimming at around 6:40 a.m. The Vilorias and Ferrer were residents of Calasiao town, while De los Santos was from Metro Manila.

Policemen and residents in the area immediately recovered the bodies of Romar Viloria, De los Santos and Ferrer. A report on Sunday said the body of Rommel Viloria was still missing.

Two other members of the family, Manuel and Lito Ferrer, and a companion identified only as Buboy, were swimming with the victims and almost drowned but were saved by their relatives.

Maritez Viloria, 35, who has been working in Hong Kong for eight years, said she went home to witness her son Romar's graduation today. Her other son, Rommel, celebrated his birthday on April 15. *Eric Montoya, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Now, In Our New, Bigger Campus®

Fly High With

ISABEL GRANADA
BS Aero Engineering 2002

PAULIE YLLANA
BS Aero Engineering 2006

PATTS
College of Aeronautics

Lombos Avenue, San Isidro, Parañaque City
Tel. 825 - 8823 Fax 825 - 8824
Email: admin@patts.edu.ph
Website: www.patts.edu.ph

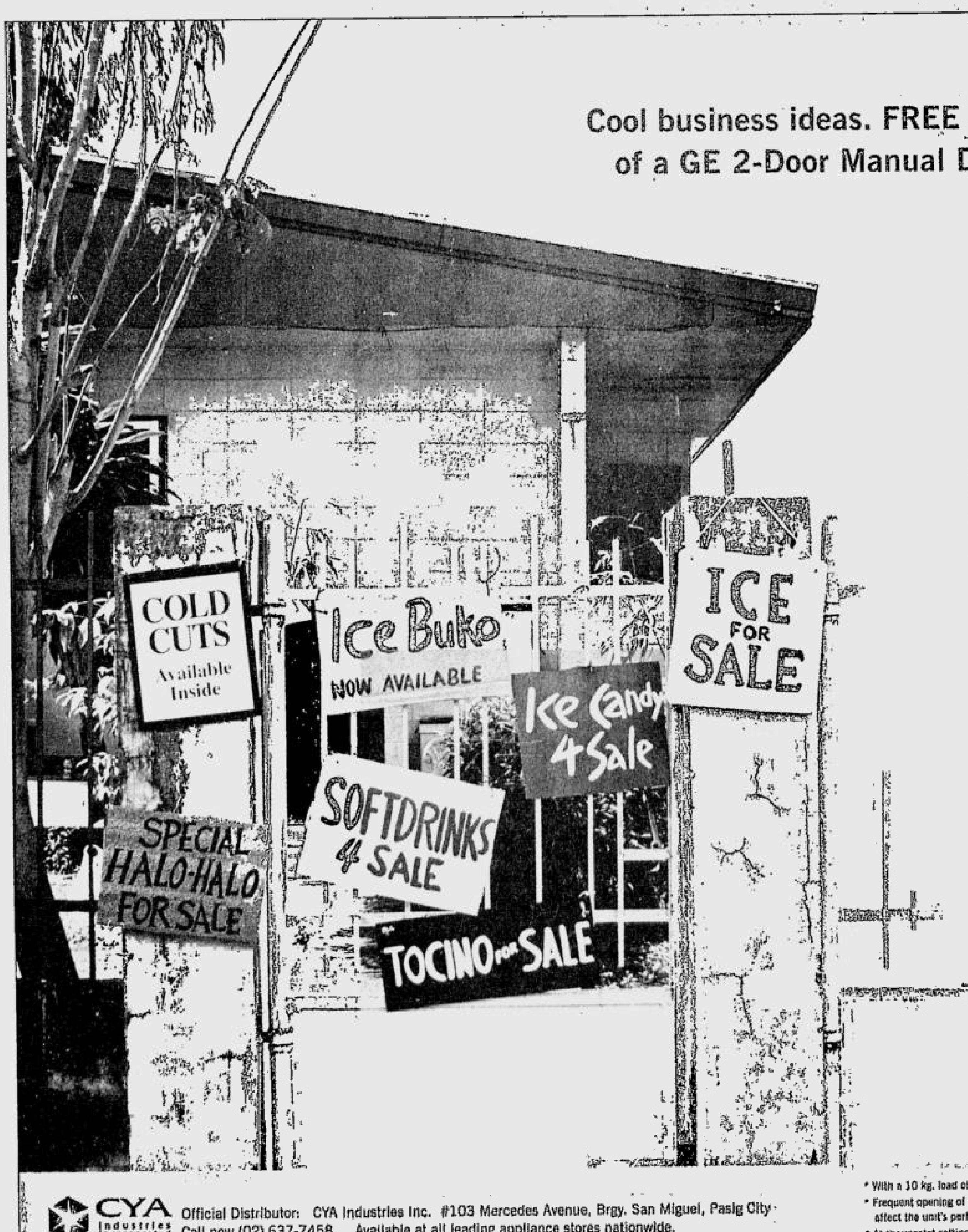
*Beside Filinvest Classic Homes, Halfway between SLEX and Ninoy Aquino Avenue

Courses Offered:
- B.S. Aeronautical Engineering - 5 yrs.
- B.S. Air Transportation
- B.S. Aircraft Maintenance Technology
- B.S. Avionics Technology
- B.S. Airline Business Administration
- B.S. Tourism
- B.S. Airline Office Administration
- B.S. Hotel and Restaurant Management *NEW COURSE offering
- Aircraft Technician Course - 2 yrs.

*Computer subjects integrated in all courses

YOUR FUTURE IS IN THE SKIES

Cool business ideas. FREE with every purchase of a GE 2-Door Manual Defrost Refrigerator.

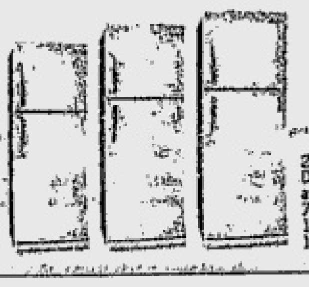


Also available with built-in water dispenser.

With its powerful freezing capacity, the GE 2-Door Manual Defrost Refrigerator makes it easy to start a business right out of your home. Sell frozen meats, fish, or chicken. Corner the neighborhood ice candy market. Be the village halo-halo tycoon. With its ability to reach temperatures as low as *-31, the GE 2-Door Manual Defrost isn't just another refrigerator. It's a really cool business partner.

GE Appliances
geappliances-philippines.com

GE imagination at work


2-Door Manual Defrost Refs available in 7 cu. ft., 10 cu. ft. & 13 cu. ft.

* With a 10 kg. load of ice water tested in a GMV130BANR for 1 day.
* Frequent opening of door/s as well as amount and type of load may affect the unit's performance.
* At thermostat setting #7.

CYA Industries Incorporated Official Distributor: CYA Industries Inc. #103 Mercedes Avenue, Brgy. San Miguel, Pasig City Call now (02) 637-7458, Available at all leading appliance stores nationwide.

Enjoy Mobile Performance at a price you can afford.

Now, everyone can enjoy powerful mobile computing with NEO Q-Note M360S featuring Intel® Celeron® processor. Do homework or personal business, play games with friends or just run home business software. NEO Q-Note makes it all possible. With NEO Q-Note M360S, you'll get fast, reliable performance at an affordable price.

System Features :

- Intel® Celeron® M Processor 320 (512KB L2 cache, 1.30 GHz , 400 MHz FSB)
- 256MB DDR Memory
- 20GB Hard Disk Drive
- 14" TFT XGA Display (1024x768)
- Combo DVD+CDRW Drive
- 56K Modem, 10/100 LAN
- 2x USB 2.0
- Built-in Webcam
- Weighs approx 2.75Kg with 6-cell Lithium Ion Battery
- Free Carry Case

Q-NOTE M360S

Suggested Retail Price
39,999
Price is exclusive of VAT

www.neo.com.ph

NEO
OWNING THE FUTURE TODAY

intel inside celeron® M

WHERE TO BUY:

GMM RETAIL: ARX COMPUTERS 8320579 ⊖ ASIANIC 6030407 ⊖ DIGITAL FOR PLAY 7221908 ⊖ COMPEX 7404898 to 60 ⊖ COMPLINK 6319901 ⊖ E-HUB 6316358 ⊖ PC CLICK 7245378 ⊖ PC CORNER 7231718 ⊖ PC EXPRESS 7258888 ⊖ PC QUARTER 7211051 ⊖ PREMIUM PC 9262148 ⊖ NT COMPUTERS 8378108 GMM CORPORATE: ASTRAL DATA SYSTEMS 3728817 ⊖ COMPUCARE 7229783 ⊖ COLUMBIA TECH 5240393 ⊖ MICROGENESIS BUSINESS SYSTEMS 8924447 to 49 ⊖ MICROPHASE 7500827 ⊖ MICROPACIFIC 8404563 ⊖ SM EQUICOM 8133601 ⊖ UNISON COMPUTER SYSTEMS 3745888 ⊖ ZENSHIN 3650536 VISMIN : CBX CORPORATION (032) 2314369 ⊖ ELECTROWORLD (032)232-0751 ⊖ DIGITAL INTERFACE (082)2258151 to 52 ⊖ LENTON (032)2539451 to 53 ⊖ MDR MICROWARE SALES (032)2554415 / (032)4124864 to 67 PROV. LUZON : ALL ELECTRONICS (082) 4807844 ⊖ BENERSON (045) 9321565 ⊖ LASER (074) 4425854 ⊖ RCA COMPUTERS (046) 8504034

FOR COMPLETE PRODUCT INFORMATION, please dial PC-MANIA (632-7262642) / 7260707, email neo@glee.com.ph.
Visit our showrooms, Digital Playground : 4L Cyberzone Bldg B SM Megamall & Gilmore IT Center, Gilmore Ave. cor Aurora Blvd., QC.

Discover Pinamalayan Exclusively through

CORPORATE AIR INCORPORATED
Fly in Style

LINAHEIM

For inquiries and reservations call
8794319/8525503-04 OR (0917)8888743 Email: corporateair@corporateairinc.com

Pinamalayan Flight Schedule: (MWF)

| DEPARTURE | ARRIVAL |
|---|---|
| Manila - 7:30am | Pinamalayan - 8:20am |
| Pinamalayan - 8:45am | Manila - 9:35am |

Pinamalayan Flight Rates* :

| | |
|---|---|
| One Way | Php 1,200 |
| Roundtrip | Php 2,400 |

* Regular rates published. Prices are subject to change.

**HARDWORKING HORSE**
Farmers of Real, Quezon use horses to help them transport logs. JOSEPH AGCAOILI

# Ati families of Boracay to be relocated—GMA

**By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.**
*PDI Visayas Bureau*

BORACAY ISLAND, Aklan—The Ati community in Boracay, the indigenous people of this island who have been marginalized with the influx of tourists, will be relocated to a permanent place, President Macapagal-Arroyo told members of the community and nuns helping the Atis.

Forty-two Ati families now residing on a disputed one-hectare lot in Sitio Bulabog in Balabag Village will be relocated to a one-hectare property within the 80-hectare Eco-Tourism Village earlier declared a tourism and economic zone by the President, said Land Reform Secretary Rene Villa.

The P50-million relocation site will be donated by the Taytay sa Kauswagan Inc. (TKI) and the Boracay Property Holdings Inc.

The village will have electricity and water supply, said Steve Tajanlangit, TKI trustee.

The President on Friday announced that the TKI would donate 60 nipa huts to the village.

The Atis, considered the first inhabitants on the 1,032-hectare island-resort, are in danger of being evicted by claimants of the land they are occupying.

The claimants, the families of Aklan Rep. Florencio Miraflores and provincial board member Jose Yap, have asked the Atis to leave the village.

The National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) last week issued a 20-day temporary restraining order (TRO) barring the eviction of the Ati community.

Miraflores welcomed the proposed relocation of the Atis. "I am happy for them and I'm also relieved that we have found a win-win solution to the problem," Miraflores told the INQUIRER.

Sr. Victoria Ustan of the Holy Rosary Parish Ati Mission (HRPAM), who lives with the Atis, said they would still have to inspect the proposed relocation site.

The Atis will decide whether to accept the proposal or not after the terms of donation and their transfer are finalized by the donors, NCIP and the Ati community. "But we are glad that the solution is finally being taken."

She said what is important for the Atis "is to have the security that they will not face the threat of eviction again."

The Atis have a pending application for the issuance of a Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) over the entire island. Their claim as the earliest inhabitants on the island has been supported by research of the NCIP and the Philippine Association for Intercultural Development (Pafid).

# 7 studes suspected of burning school

CEBU CITY—Six senior students who failed to graduate and a failed junior student were suspected of burning down a classroom and damaging two others at the National High School in Barangay Cansuje, Argao, Cebu on Tuesday.

The students, with ages ranging from 16 to 20, became the prime suspects in the burning of the three-classroom building at the Cansuje National High School at around 1 a.m. Tuesday due to the junior student's threat last week that he would "do something bad" if his teachers failed him, the Argao police said.

The burning incident occurred less than 24 hours after the school's faculty announced on Monday that the junior student would not be moving on to his senior year, while the six would not be graduating this school year, police record showed.

SPO1 Vivian Tamayo of the Argao police said they concluded arson had been committed due to findings of forced entry in a building's comfort room. Also, the cause of the fire could not have been faulty wiring since no electrical equipment had been plugged at that time, she said.

School principal Clavel Amarillo said residents living some 10 meters from the school heard the dragging of chairs in one of the classrooms at around 11 p.m. on Monday.

Some of the residents went to the school to check but got scared and returned home after flashlights, coming from one of the classrooms, were beamed on their faces.

Clavel said some residents saw smoke coming from the school building at around 1 a.m. The fire raged until about 5 a.m. but the firemen only arrived at the scene at around 6 a.m. The school is about 11 km from the town proper.

The burned classroom is part of a 5-year-old three-room building which housed the rooms for the second, third and fourth year classes. The classroom that housed the senior class got burned while the third and second year rooms were partly damaged.

Clavel placed the damage at about P1 million.

The Argao police invited the seven students for questioning but were later released for lack of evidence. *Mara Barbra Nanaman and Mary Jef Omolon, PDI Visayas Bureau*

# Lawmen seize ₱1-M hot lumber that passed 2 DENR checkpoints

PILI, Camarines Sur—Transported by a six-wheeler Isuzu forward truck, a P1-million worth of hot lumber had slipped through two major checkpoints of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources until the truck was flagged down by a provincial government law enforcement unit here.

Lawyer Luis Mario General, chief of the Sagip Kalikasan Task Force, the environmental enforcement unit created by the Camarines Sur provincial government last year, said he has been puzzled at how the hot load escaped at least two major DENR checkpoints along the national highway from Meycauayan, Bulacan to Del Gallego, Camarines Sur.

General said he knew at least two DENR checkpoints between the two provincial boundaries that were supposed to flag down, check and clear or impound vehicles transporting illegal lumber.

He said the truck was registered to Delta Wood Products based in Meycauayan, Bulacan while the hot lumber was supposedly consigned and to be delivered to unnamed lumberyards in the cities of Naga and Iriga and the town of Pili, all in Camarines Sur.

General said the Sagip Kalikasan Task Force's checkpoint set up in Cabasag, Del Gallego flagged down the truck loaded with 6,100 board feet of lumber at about 4 a.m. on April 7.

The checkpoint team that a certain Norman Paminiano heads checked the lumber but the driver failed to show documents for their transit, he said.

General said the driver told the checkpoint team that the lumber was imported from Malaysia but he showed no documents as proof.

The hot lumber and the truck were impounded at the DENR office here upon issuance of a seizure order, he said.

In related development, soldiers recovered at least 2,000 board feet of abandoned narra and *lawaan* trees of different sizes near the riverbank at Barangay Tubaon, Virac, Catanduanes at 2 p.m. on Friday.

Col. Ed Malabanjot, commanding officer of the 65th Infantry Battalion based in Barangay Tula-tula in Ligao City, said his troops were patrolling the area when they saw the illegal logs.

The suspected illegal loggers apparently immediately abandoned the hot logs when they noticed that soldiers were approaching, he said.

The recovered logs were now in the custody of the Catanduanes Provincial Police Office and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Catanduanes police director Supt. Frank Peñaflor Jr. has reiterated his order to his men to cooperate with military men in the stricter monitoring of illegal logging in the province. *Juan Escandor Jr. and Michael Jaucian, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

MARAZZI
Polished Homogeneous Porcelain Flooring Tiles (Marble Look)

Sizes:
- 40 x 40 cm (P 130.00 to P 155.00 per piece)
- 60 x 60 cm (P 295.00 to P 350.00 per piece)

Colors:
- Statuario (super white)
- Crema

DEXTERTON
Dexterton Corporation

Address
157 Sgt. E. Rivera St., Quezon City
Tel: 362-1111, 361-6006 Fax No: 362-0524
email: info@dexterton.com
website: www.dexterton.com

WE BUY USED SWISS WATCHES

Omega, Breitling, Cartier, IWC, Rolex, Jaeger-Le-Coultre, Breguet, Patek Philippe, Franck Muller, A Lange & Sohne, Audemars Piguet, Vacheron Constantin, Zenith, Piaget

NO FAKES, NO STOLEN PLEASE.

secondó
Goldcrest Village Square, Upper Level
(Outside Facing Park Square 2)
Glorietta Mall, Ayala Centre, Makati
♦ Telephone 894-0282

Swiss Watch Loans Offered At
Agencia de Empeños de Makati, Inc.
1735 Evangelista St, Bangkal, Makati
♦ Telephone 759-3489

*We are not affiliated with any of the watch and jewelry brands that we carry*

TRUSTED ALL OVER THE WORLD
Pulmo-Aide Compact Compressor and Nebulizer
from DeVILBISS U.S.A

5-YEAR WARRANTY

Pulmo-aide 3655 P Compact Compressor
Pulmo-Aide 5650 P (Heavy Duty)

Relief that lasts!

Accessories:
- Pediatric Aerosol Mask
- Disposable Nebulizer Kit
- Air Filter
- Carrying bag (Compact Compressor)

Effective, Reliable, Affordable
for ASTHMA & other Respiratory Disorders

medical center trading corporation
Pioneer St., Cor. Shaw Blvd., Pasig City
Tels 631 1715 631 0355 637 0504 / Fax (632) 631-7800
E-mail Address: [illegible]

| Pasig City | Manila City | Cebu City | Davao City | Iloilo City | Lipa City | Pampanga | Pangasinan |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (02) | (02) | (032) | (082) | (033) | (043) | (045) | (075) |
| 631-1715 | 711-8374 | 254-2367 | 222-4404 | 320-1413 | 757-2051 | 961-7892 | 568-7390 |

Available at all mercury drug Branches Nationwide

BLOOD CLOT leads to killer STROKE & HEART ATTACK!

TUNAWIN ANG BARA!
MAG-PLASMIN, THE BLOOD CLOT DISSOLVER

THE IDEAL SUPPLEMENT IF YOU HAVE:
- DIABETES
- HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE
- HIGH CHOLESTEROL
- HEART DISEASE
- STROKE
- OBESITY
- A STRESSFUL LIFESTYLE

NEW PACK
100% NATURAL
Lumbrokinase 250mg
PLASMIN CAPSULES

APPROVED BY USFDA AND BFAD FR 39851

Available at all mercury drug & other leading drugstores. For inquiries about product and dealer promo, please call Hotline Nos. (02)8942932, (02)8942687 or 0919-8250944 or email plasmin_inquiry@yahoo.com.

tronix Ref Clock Saver

A Reliable device that Conserves energy and Saves money without affecting your refrigerator's operation

- ✓ Saves up to 45% on your refrigerator's power consumption
- ✓ Limits defrosting schedule to only 4 to 6 times a year
- ✓ Protects your refrigerator from sudden power surge
- ✓ Has Real Time Clock display
- ✓ Has five (5) time settings when the power saving period will begin
- ✓ Deactivates power saving mode at 6am the next day

Php 1,180 w/ 1 year warranty

Recommended for refrigerators and any chest-type freezers 24 cu. ft. and below.

CALL US NOW FOR INQUIRIES
OPEN FOR DEALERSHIP

Outlets
Ali Mall Cubao
Ever Ortigas
Ever Recto
Fiesta World Lipa
Isetann Recto
SM City Manila
Star J Malabon
MRT-Ayala
MRT-Shaw
Harrison Plaza Manila
Market Place Mandaluyong
Metropolis Alabang
Tutuban Centermall II Manila
Riverbanks Marikina
Zaberte Town Center Caloocan
Nova Plaza Mall QC
Waltermart QC
Pavilion Mall Biñan

innovatronix, Inc.
Tel.: (02) 645-6124 / (02) 645-1592 / (02) 645-1903
email: marketing@innovatronix.com
website: www.innovatronix.com

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ARE NOW ACCEPTED IN SELECTED OUTLETS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2005 REGULAR PREMISE PRIVILEGED PARTNERS

PREMISE TERMITE ELIMINATION
PREMISE PRIVILEGED PARTNER
PHILIPPINES

PEST CONTROL COMPANY

| | |
|---|---|
| Advance Pest Control Corporation | Tel. nos.: 630-7797 / 638-6994 |
| Entom Pest Control & Gen. Svcs. Corporation | Tel. nos.: 809-1868 / 850-0276 |
| Julant Pest Control Systems, Inc. | Tel. nos.: 638-1225 / 687-7907 |
| Metropolitan Pest Control Corporation | Tel. nos.: 931-4130 / 931-4569 |
| No Ka Oi (Phils.) Int'l. Inc. | Tel. nos.: 807-7796 / 850-4880 |
| Pest-Away Corporation | Tel. nos.: 861-3403 to 04 |
| Rentokil Initial Phils., Inc. | Tel. no.: 687-0210 |
| Vira Pest Control Company | Tel. nos.: 834-2494 / 726-3174 |

INSTITUTIONAL COMPANY

| |
|---|
| Tagaytay Highlands |
| Fortune Tobacco Corporation |

YOU TRUST BAYER WITH YOUR HEALTH.
NOW YOU CAN TRUST BAYER WITH YOUR HOME.

PREMISE® TERMITE ELIMINATION
A Quality Product of Bayer Environmental Science
3/F Bayer House, Canlubang Industrial Estate, Calamba City Telephone Nos.: (02) 450-3756 to 59

# JC-Spice Merger:

## Expanding Opportunities for Filipino Entrepreneurs

***It's final. Pinoy multilevel marketing is alive and well. Thanks to the enlightened decision rendered by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) upholding the legality of product-driven multilevel marketing that had given ordinary Filipino households a shot at millionaire status.***

With Vice President Noli de Castro in attendance, JC Martin and Spice Corporation announced Monday their merger, a move seen to further strengthen the Filipino-driven multilevel marketing (MLM) industry in the country and open more opportunities for tens of thousands of aspiring small entrepreneurs.

The fusion of these two forces, under the new corporate name JC Spice Corporation, (JCS) was announced by Ma. Theresa "Maite" Defensor, chairperson of the new company and former congresswoman of the 3rd District of Quezon City, at the Octagon Bldg., San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

The dynamic management team behind JC Spice comprises the same people responsible for the phenomenal success of JC Martin, which was created three years ago to help reinvigorate the ailing shoe industry in Marikina and open better-paying livelihood opportunities for small entrepreneurs through direct selling.

Delfin "Joey" Castro, erstwhile President and Chief Executive Officer of JC Martin, assumed the same post in JC Spice. He has a track record of two decades in the leather and shoe manufacturing business. He owns the Newport and Boston shoe companies.

Sisters Dina Tactacan-Castro and Julie Rose Tactacan-Defensor play key roles in the merged company. The family of Dina and Julie belong to a long lineage of involvement in shoe manufacturing, being the descendants of Kapitan Moy Guevarra, acknowledged founder of the Philippine shoe industry. Dina, wife of the President/CEO, is Product Development Director and Julie, the wife of the Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Michael Defensor, is JC Spice Treasurer.

Also in the team is Kenneth Asuncion as Chief Operating Officer, a seasoned business manager and husband of Maite Defensor.

Completing the dynamic team of JC Spice management is Rodolfo de Guzman as Corporate Secretary, one of the foremost lawyers of the multi-level marketing industry.

Castro said that with the merger, JC Martin and Spice will continue to carry out their common mission of providing "a stable and secure business environment" for budding Filipino home-based entrepreneurs.

Along with the merger, JC Spice also announced that it will unveil its expanded line of world-class quality products for its growing clientele with the release of its summer product catalogue this month.

Boston and Newport shoes, San Miguel products, Fundador, Timex, Barbie, Splash, Kissa, Disney, Homi noodles, MOI Swiss watches, Bio Squalene, Rubbermaid, Cross Pens, and Spice Scents, which are sold at extensive discounts to its distributors, are just a few of the product lines JC Spice will market. The array of products include luxury items, accessories, shoes, bags, apparel and other essential consumer items.

JC Martin's direct marketing approach made available to thousands of Filipinos, quality products at low prices. "These goods, all proudly manufactured in the Philippines, would be beyond the ordinary Filipino's budget when it hits the commercial markets". "JC Martin makes it possible for Filipinos to experience the excellence of his own products while earning in the process," said Castro.

"We will trailblaze the retail and manufacturing industry never seen or experienced in the country and the world!" declared Maite Defensor.

JC Spice is set to conduct a massive launch of the merger on June 17 at the Philippine International Convention Center where thousands of distributors and industry workers are expected to participate.

SPICE CORP.
POWER IN MERGER!

POWER NETWORK: Members of JC Martin-Spice network of business partners celebrate the merger signed by JCM President Joey Castro and Spice Chair Maite Defensor (upper photo). Standing as witnesses and joining the revelry are Vice President Noli De Castro and DENR Secretary Mike Defensor.

JCSPICE
"empowering the filipino family"

# A Filipino perspective on John Paul's successor

From page A1

papacy on Oct. 16, 1978, replacing Pope John Paul I (Albino Luciani of Venice) who died less than a month after being elected.

The task of the College of Cardinals is to elect a new pope in a conclave that will be held at the Apostolic Palace inside the Sistine Chapel. As a rule promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1975, only cardinals below 80 years old will take part in the conclave, which is composed of 117 members out of the total 183 living cardinals today. John Paul II personally designated about 95 percent of the living cardinals during his almost 27 years as Pope.

It would require the votes of at least two-thirds of the voting cardinals for the new pope to be chosen. While the cardinals usually choose the next pope among them, nothing prevents them from electing any baptized male Roman Catholic. In case no one gets the two-thirds majority vote after two weeks, the cardinals may agree to elect the next pope by simple majority or more than half the number of voters.

The conclave is held in great secrecy; already, the cardinals agreed that they will grant no more interviews with the media. The closest insight we have on the papal electoral process was captured in a movie, "The Shoes of the Fisherman," starring Anthony Quinn many years ago.

I am excited about the idea of having a pope from outside Europe, which had absolute monopoly over the papacy since the time of St. Peter, who was from what is now Israel. The present College of Cardinals, however, remains under the dominion of Europeans, particularly Italians.

## Composition

Among the electing cardinals, 58 are from Europe, including 20 Italians, while 15 are from North America and the Pacific. Asia, Africa and Latin America have only 44, including 22 South Americans.

Asia has 22 voting cardinals. Of the three cardinals from the Philippines—Jaime Lachica Sin, Ricardo Jamin Vidal and Jose Tomas Sanchez—only Vidal is a voting member. The other two are retired because of health or age, or both.

## Beyond Europe

A number of names have already cropped up as the possible successor to Pope John Paul II, including the German-born Joseph Ratzinger, the dean of the College of Cardinals who played a key role during the funeral Mass seen by the rest of the world, thanks to CNN and BBC; and the Italians—Dionigi Tettamanzi, the archbishop of Milan; Ennio Antonelli, the archbishop of Florence, and Giovanni Battista Re, a top Vatican official.

After 2,000 years, there is now a strong possibility that the College of Cardinals will finally look beyond the borders of Europe to find someone who can lead the Catholic Church in the post-John Paul II period. Among the names mentioned are those of Jean-Claude Turcotte, archbishop of Montreal, Canada; Francis Arinze, a Vatican official from Nigeria; Ivan Dias, archbishop of Bombay, India; Claudio Hummes, archbishop of Sao Paulo, and Jose Maria Bergoglio, archbishop of Buenos Aires.

An American pope is not probable, not only because of many problems of the American clergy, including allegations of child abuse, but specially since such a pope may be seen as exacerbating the "clash of civilizations" with the Muslim world due to the perceived interventionist and unilateral foreign policy of US President George W. Bush, widely perceived as a devout Christian fundamentalist.

## Third World pope?

A Third World pope may be more effective in trying to reach out to the Catholics of China.

President Hu Jintao was conspicuously absent from Rome during the papal funeral where at least 70 presidents and prime ministers, and four kings and queens were among the more than 80 dignitaries who attended. Hu's absence though was because the Vatican has diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

Another prevailing sentiment is that the next pope should be more responsive to the problems brought about by globalization and should therefore come from outside Europe and the United States—countries perceived by the Third World not only as too powerful, economically and politically, but are not doing enough to narrow the gap between the "haves" of the North and the "have nots" of the Southern hemisphere.

The Philippines, therefore, would more easily identify with a pope from a developing country in Latin America, like Argentina, which shares the country's colonial past under centuries of Spanish rule. Although lacking in the number of cardinals, the region has nearly 40 percent of the world's Catholic population.

In a place where cardinals are mostly conservative, Argentina takes pride in one of its own—the moderate Jorge Mario Cardinal Bergoglio, the Jesuit archbishop of Buenos Aires. Bergoglio is Italian by blood, having been born to Italian immigrants, but Argentinean by citizenship, since he was born in Buenos Aires on Dec. 17, 1936. If elected, he would be the first pope from a developing country outside Europe and the first Jesuit Vatican pontiff.

The Society of Jesus has a good following among the 70 million Catholics in the Philippines.

The 68-year-old cardinal is known for his apostolic and charitable work. His preaching in the financial crisis-hit Argentina has inspired many to seek hope in the Lord. He is always praised for living what he teaches.

## 'Father Jorge'

Known simply as "Father Jorge" to his diocese, he still reportedly uses the city's subway and buses, keeps a modest apartment, and maintains a low media profile, to keep focused on his pastoral ministry. At a time when religious conflict has heightened into violence in different parts of the world, his homilies and speeches about reaching out to others will surely inspire unity among nations.

While being described as moderate, Bergoglio has aggressively opposed the suggestion of the country's health minister to allow abortion and reprimanded the Argentinean media for playing up the proposal. He is focused on spreading the Gospel, sharing the promise of God's love and salvation in Jesus Christ, and keeping unchanging moral values.

In May 2003, while Argentina was trying to survive a serious economic crisis, thanks to its overseas contract workers the Philippines was able to successfully avoid a similar crisis. Bergoglio, who was named cardinal in 2001 by Pope John Paul II, exhorted the rich and the powerful in society to become Good Samaritans to those affected most by the crisis.

As someone who grew up in Argentina, a melting pot of different cultures in South America, he understands the unfolding of world events in the modern age and cautions his diocese against the adverse impact of liberalization. He has also questioned the Argentinean government's free-market policies for dragging millions of its citizens into poverty.

At a time when the imbalance in trade liberalization and fueled by ever rising crude oil prices, makes rich nations richer and developing countries poorer, Bergoglio raises a moral voice to remind those who take so much to share more with those who have so much less.

## Developing world

While the discussions in the conclave would most likely shun the angle of whether the next pope should remain European, I believe that the cardinals would find credence in the fact that it is now time for the Catholic Church to pick someone who really understands the problems of the developing world, where most people of the poor and dispossessed live and die.

The next pope needs to continue to speak about and address the problems of poverty, injustice and oppression to reach out to people who feel unloved and abandoned. At the same time, the pontiff has to find ways to bring the teachings of the Church in harmony with the workings of the modern society and economy now run by many of the young generation of Roman Catholics.

As a Jesuit, Bergoglio seems to be in the best position to relay the Gospel outside the palaces of Vatican to the farms and streets of the developing countries where billions of people are poor, sick, grieving and yearning to hear a message of hope. I pray that the conclave elects him as our new Holy Father so he can continue the work of our beloved John Paul II.

1 sa 10 Pilipino ay diabetiko. Marami pa ang delikado.

"Alamin Ang Diabetes"
Isang educational TV program tungkol sa diabetes.

Abangan sa RPN-9

April 17, Linggo, 11 PM
April 19, Martes, 8:30 AM
April 24, Linggo, 11 PM
April 26, Martes, 8:30 AM
May 1, Linggo, 11 PM
May 3, Martes, 8:30 AM
May 8, Linggo, 11 PM
May 10, Martes, 8:30 AM

Officially endorsed by
DOH

Alamin ang mga risk factors, sintomas at komplikasyon ng diabetes.

Alamin ang mga ekspertong payo kung paano iwasan at kontrolin ito.

Alamin kung paano hinarap ng ilang diabetiko ang sakit.

Alamin ang Diabetes is brought to you by
Operation Diabetes
A nationwide program for diabetes control and prevention by the Association of Municipal Health Officers of the Philippines

AMHOP

For inquiries please call 802 48 07 or visit www.operationdiabetes.com.ph

This public service announcement is brought to you by

Charantia
AMPALAYA FOOD SUPPLEMENT

The official food supplement of
Operation Diabetes

The all new Spokeman
Personal Voice Amplifier
P3,800 only
The Ultimate Voice Care Product.
Thousands of units sold worldwide.
MA-2800

Now you don't have to shout to be heard.

- Crystal Clear sound reproduction
- 2x more powerful than the first spokeman.
- Audience Capacity >100 when seated together
- Weighs just 210 grams ( batt. included)
- Comes with belt clip and sling.
- Includes battery and charger

Exclusive Distributor:
Cosmotech Makati: 7592484 SM North Edsa: 9200241 Cebu: (032)4223201 Davao: (082)2258693

Forever in Credit Card Debt?

Is this your story? All your hard earned money goes to nasty credit card debts that just won't quit. You pay the minimum amount due, but the interest rates on your balance keep you perpetually in debt.

Enough is enough!

Use the Chinatrust

Bash Your Balance loan

to pay off your credit card debt!

Have more control over your finances!

- at only [illegible] monthly add-on interest
- pay only HALF of your first month's amortization
- pay for the loan in a fixed amount for 24 months

Promo Mechanics

1. The Chinatrust Bash Your Balance Loan is open to:
   a. All existing credit cardholders (from any bank) in good standing.
   b. Employed individuals earning a minimum gross monthly income of P15,000.00.
   c. Residents of GMA, Cavite, Laguna, Rizal and Bulacan.
2. Borrowers can apply for a loan amount that is higher than their credit card balance, subject to credit approval. Minimum loanable amount is P30,000.00.
3. Chinatrust will pay half of the borrower's first month regular amortization. The Bash Your Balance Loan is applicable only for a 24-month loan term.
4. Disbursement of loan proceeds will be payable directly to the credit card company. Loan amount in excess of borrower's credit card balance shall be credited to the borrower's Chinatrust checking account or other nominated account.
5. Promo period is from April 1 to June 30, 2005. All existing credit guidelines of Chinatrust apply.
6. The following documents (original copies are needed unless specified otherwise) are required for processing of the loan:
   a. Completely filled-out application form
   b. Latest credit card statements for the last 2 months
   c. Copy of employee ID (with photo and signature)
   d. Copy of latest ITR (BIR Form 2316)
   d. Latest pay-slip for the last 1 month
   e. Proof of billing address (e.g. water bill, electric bill, phone bill)

Call: 8118999
Avail now! You only have until June 30, 2005.
Per DTI-NCR Permit #1773 Series of 2005

Get SAME DAY loan approval and release when you apply at our Consumer Finance Center!
From 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. at 11F B.A. Lepanto Bldg., 8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.

Chinatrust
One of the country's best performing banks.

## Brothel closes down out of respect for Pope

WARSAW—The owner of a brothel in a small town in southern Poland is closing down his business out of respect for the late Pope John Paul II, the Gazeta Wyborcza newspaper reported Saturday.

"I'm closing down my business with the girls, I'm doing it for the one at the top, for John Paul II," the paper quoted Jozej Galica as saying.

"Money is not everything. Something cracked inside me. I lost my way in life," he said.

Galica said he would from now on take communion and confess to his Poronin parish priest, Franiszek Juchas, who confirmed that the businessman had assured him he would shut up shop.

John Paul II was born at Wadowice, which is located 70 km, from Poronin. AFP

# BIR warned on church tax

From page A1

move, suspicions would arise that this was "a counterweight to the churches' activism," Arroyo said.

The senator noted that churches had been increasingly critical of President Macapagal-Arroyo. Archbishop Oscar Cruz was reported to have said that the people no longer saw the administration as an ally but as their enemy. *(See related story on page A5.)*

Expecting a fallout, Malacañang quickly moved to downplay the BIR plan to make the influential Catholic Church and other religious organizations its next target in the ongoing drive to flush out tax evaders.

## Out of context

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said yesterday that Parayno was "taken out of context" by an INQUIRER report, which had said the agency would look into the books of church leaders and religious groups to determine whether they had been paying taxes.

Bunye did not elaborate on his statement, saying that he only got a text message from Parayno yesterday asking him to make the clarification.

A Malacañang official was caught off-guard by the news.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said that while Malacañang had left it all to the BIR to determine which groups and individuals would be covered by its Run After Tax Evaders (RATE) campaign, it was unsure why the Church would be a target given its tax-exempt status.

"The BIR has already compiled a list of tax cheats since a month ago. I do not know the (BIR's) basis because we have long been implementing the Tax Code that exempts the Church from tax payments," Ermita said in an interview with reporters.

He said the BIR should first establish a legal basis for taxing the Church. "I'm sure (the BIR) has a basis and it is probably looking at the commercial side of religious groups, which I think should also be taxed," he said.

## Policy directive

Arroyo voiced the belief that the major policy change announced by Parayno "is a policy directive" of the President.

"Such a fundamental policy change cannot be made by a mere bureaucrat, certainly it has the blessing and the clearance of the President no less," Arroyo said.

Arroyo warned that the BIR plan would face rough-sailing in Congress.

"Only Congress can pass tax laws, not the President. For Congress to heed her call, the President has to persuade it of the nobility of her latest move that the taxing powers of the state are not being used for political leverage," the senator said.

## Nothing new

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr., for his part, said the BIR plan was nothing new.

"Church or Church groups in business were never exempt and I don't believe they're asking for exemption," he said curtly in a text message.

Businessmen are divided on whether the government's RATE campaign should cover the Catholic Church and other religious groups.

Philippine-US Business Council chair Ramon del Rosario Jr. believes that the Church should be the last on the BIR's list of targets.

"As the Church's tax exempt status is guaranteed by the Constitution, whatever lapses there may be in tax compliance are likely to be marginal and inconsequential relative to the massive tax evasion in other sectors," Del Rosario said in a text message to the INQUIRER.

PARAYNO

## Focus on big tax evaders

He said the BIR should stay the course in focusing on big-time evaders in the business, government, military, professional and entertainment sectors.

But Francis Chua, newly elected president of the Federation of Filipino-Chinese Chambers of Commerce Inc., believes that nobody should be spared from the government's tax drive because everybody has to contribute in solving the fiscal crisis.

"This is not an issue of antireligion or anti-Catholicism. This is the time for us to show patriotism as Filipinos," Chua said.

He suggested that aside from donor's tax, all nonprofit organizations pay all local and national taxes for a period of five years.

# Top students get real gold medals in Diwata

From page A1

Diwata in Monkayo, Compostela Valley, received medals fashioned out of real gold on Saturday.

Franco Tito, Mt. Diwata barangay chair, said the medals weighed 10 grams and cost about P7,000 each.

Tito said the genuine gold medals were awarded to pupils and students who excelled in their classes.

The practice, which started three years ago, aims to encourage students to study harder.

"I know this is a very good way of encouraging students to try their best in school," Tito said.

Some of the students were repeat awardees, meaning they had been consistent topnotchers in academics. "It was the third time for some of them to receive a medal," he said.

Tito said the materials used for the gold medals were solicited from ball mill operators in the area.

"At least, ball mill operators are very generous. Some instantly gave 10 grams but others gave one gram," he said.

Most of the 2,000 students in the village are children of small-scale miners in the gold-rich but violence-prone area.

Tito said they wanted to encourage children to study because of the dim prospects of gold mining in the area.

"I plan to have a tieup with college and vocational schools so they could put up an annex [here] so high school graduates wouldn't have to go down to Monkayo proper to continue their studies," he said.

Although famous for its gold, not everyone in Diwata is as lucky.

Tito said about three years ago, one of the awardees tried to sell her medal so she could buy medicine for her ailing mother.

"Financially, this could also help the poor families, especially when they need money," Tito said of the gold medals.

SAN BEDA COLLEGE OF LAW (ALABANG CAMPUS)
COLLEGE OF LAW ADMISSION TEST
SBC-LAT
SCHOOL YEAR 2005-2006
Don Manolo Blvd. Alabang Hills Village, Muntinlupa City

San Beda College Alabang 1972 PAX

REQUIREMENTS UPON REGISTRATION:

A. Official Transcript of Records with S.O. Number with Remarks: " For Further Studies" or " Copy for San Beda College".

* NOTE: If T.O.R. is not yet available
HONORABLE DISMISSAL and CERTIFICATE OF GRADUATION

*NOTE: For Graduating Students (Summer Grad.)
CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY FOR GRADUATION

B. Two Certification of Good Moral character preferably from the Dean & Guidance Counsellor of school last attended.
C. Three (3) I.D. Pictures of 2X2 (preferably white background) write full name at the back and affix your signature in front.

SCHEDULE OF TESTING

23 APRIL 2005 (Saturday, 7:00 a.m. – 12:00 n.n.)
30 APRIL 2005 (Saturday, 12:00 n.n. – 5:00 p.m.)
17 May 2005 (Tuesday, 12:00 n.n. – 5:00 p.m.)

Test Registration is on first come first serve basis.
EXAMINATION FEE: PhP 1, 000.00

For Inquiry Contact Tel No. 735-60-11 to 15 Loc. 6122 / 842-7942, 809-1793 Loc. 187 – JUN CADUGO

"THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED"

MIPRO
PROFESSIONAL PA SYSTEM
ISO 9001 TUV CERT

Introducing.....
A revolutionary techonology of Rechargeable and Wireless Microphone System
MA-707 The Ultimate Portable Wireless PA System!

RECHARGEABLE & WIRELESS MEGAPHONE

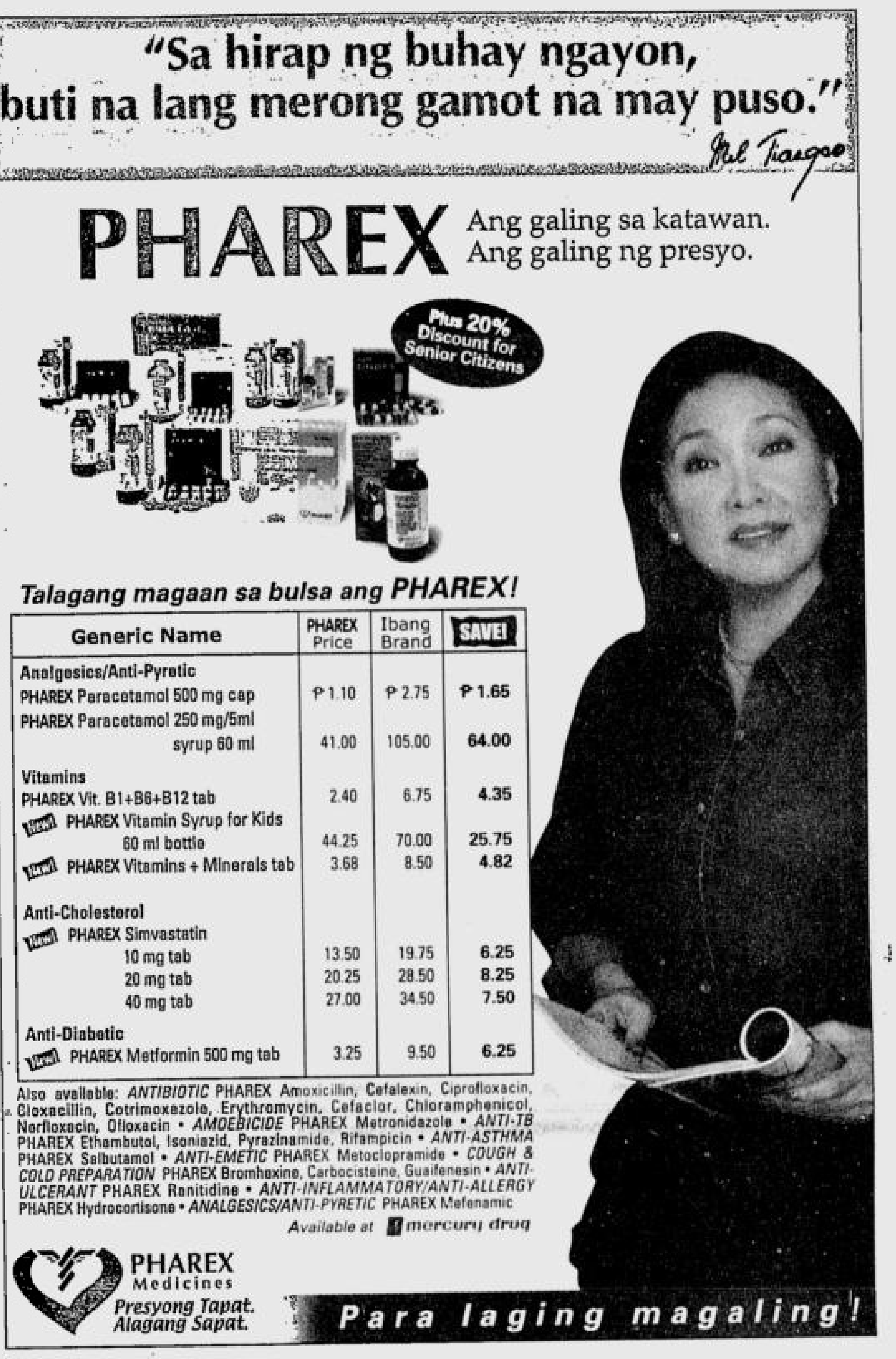
Built-in universal CE.UL.CSA approved computer switching power supply
Powered by versatile AC.DC, and Rechargeable battery
8-hours continous use after 4-hours charging
Built-in Cassette player/recorder and anti-shock CD player
Maximum of 4 microphones to be used at anytime.
Innovative plug in type wireless receiver module
Longest wireless transmission range with no dropouts.

MIPRO MA-707

This system is absolutely perfect for any indoor or outdoor activities up to 200 people. Ideal for use in:
- School & University
- Church & Place of Worships
- Government Offices
- Town & City ( Barangay Districts )
- Hotel & Restaurant ( Function Rooms )
- Outdoor Ceremonies
- Corporate Meetings & Presentations
- Networking, Seminars & Conferences
- Trade Shows & Exhibits
- Auctions & Product Demonstration
- Political Rallies & Parades
- Gym, Aerobics & Sporting Events
- Wedding, Parties & Small Events
- Any location where clear speech are required.

MIPRO MA-101
Personal Wireless PA System

DESMO Enterprise
TO Bldg., No. 25 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City Tel. 683-0787 / 687-1385



"Sa hirap ng buhay ngayon, buti na lang merong gamot na may puso."
Nel Tiangco

PHAREX Ang galing sa katawan. Ang galing ng presyo.

Plus 20% Discount for Senior Citizens

Talagang magaan sa bulsa ang PHAREX!

| Generic Name | PHAREX Price | Ibang Brand | SAVE! |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Analgesics/Anti-Pyretic** | | | |
| PHAREX Paracetamol 500 mg cap | ₱1.10 | ₱2.75 | ₱1.65 |
| PHAREX Paracetamol 250 mg/5ml syrup 60 ml | 41.00 | 105.00 | 64.00 |
| **Vitamins** | | | |
| PHAREX Vit. B1+B6+B12 tab | 2.40 | 6.75 | 4.35 |
| New! PHAREX Vitamin Syrup for Kids 60 ml bottle | 44.25 | 70.00 | 25.75 |
| New! PHAREX Vitamins + Minerals tab | 3.68 | 8.50 | 4.82 |
| **Anti-Cholesterol** | | | |
| New! PHAREX Simvastatin | | | |
| 10 mg tab | 13.50 | 19.75 | 6.25 |
| 20 mg tab | 20.25 | 28.50 | 8.25 |
| 40 mg tab | 27.00 | 34.50 | 7.50 |
| **Anti-Diabetic** | | | |
| New! PHAREX Metformin 500 mg tab | 3.25 | 9.50 | 6.25 |

Also available: *ANTIBIOTIC* PHAREX Amoxicillin, Cefalexin, Ciprofloxacin, Cloxacillin, Cotrimoxazole, Erythromycin, Cefaclor, Chloramphenicol, Norfloxacin, Ofloxacin • *AMOEBICIDE* PHAREX Metronidazole • *ANTI-TB* PHAREX Ethambutol, Isoniazid, Pyrazinamide, Rifampicin • *ANTI-ASTHMA* PHAREX Salbutamol • *ANTI-EMETIC* PHAREX Metoclopramide • *COUGH & COLD PREPARATION* PHAREX Bromhexine, Carbocisteine, Guaifenesin • *ANTI-ULCERANT* PHAREX Ranitidine • *ANTI-INFLAMMATORY/ANTI-ALLERGY* PHAREX Hydrocortisone • *ANALGESICS/ANTI-PYRETIC* PHAREX Mefenamic

Available at mercury drug

PHAREX Medicines
Presyong Tapat. Alagang Sapat.

Para laging magaling!

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde

Your Shortcut to Success

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde created the School of Professional and Continuing Education (SPaCE) to provide a link between the academe and the business world.
SPaCE is the path towards lifelong education in key business management competencies in strategic industries. It offers innovative education through programs designed by industry experts. Each module gives participants immediate take-away values that they can readily apply at work. It incorporates the best practices in each field of study, plus the latest trends and development. It also enhances the competencies of professionals through a balanced combination of traditional and innovative learner-centered approaches.

**Project Management**
*A certificate course designed for first time project managers who need a methodology well suited to their tasks*
June 11-25

**International Business Environment**
*A module under the Enterprise Competitiveness Diploma program in partnership with the Association of Training Institutions for Foreign Trade in Asia and the Pacific (ATIFTAP).*
May 14 – June 11

**HR Operations and IT**
*A module under the Human Resource Management Diploma Program*
May 14 – June 18

**Dynamics of Marketing Services**
*A module under the Marketing Communications Management Diploma Program, in partnership with the Philippine Association of National Advertisers Foundation (PANAF)*
May 14 – June 18

**Procurement Law & Contract Management**
*A module under the Purchasing and Supply Chain Management Diploma Program, in partnership with the Philippine Institute for Supply Chain Management (PISM)*
May 14 – June 4

**Strategic Organizational Development**
*A module under the Organizational Management Diploma Program*
May 14 – June 18

Discounts are given to partner members, groups, early bird registrants and DLSAA members.

**Real Estate Planning and Development**
*A module under the Real Estate Management Diploma Program, in partnership with the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders' Association, Inc. (CREBA)*
May 14 – June 18

**Marketing Management**
*A module under the Strategic Marketing Management Diploma Program*
May 14 – June 18

**The Retail Customer and the Marketing Research Process**
*A module under the Retail Management Diploma Program offered in partnership with the Philippine Retailers Association (PRA)*
May 14 – June 18

**Cost and Operations Management of a Restaurant**
A module under the Restaurant and Food Entrepreneurship Diploma Program
May 14 – June 18

**Strategic Training and Development**
*A module under the Training Development and Management Diploma Program, in partnership with the Philippine Society for Training and Development (PSTD)*
May 14 – June 18

**Event Coordination**
*A module under the Professional Events Management Diploma Program*
May 14 – 28

**Summer Painting Workshop**
*Basic Painting*
April 25 – May 16 MWF 9-12

*Advanced Painting*
April 25 – May 16 MWF 1:30-4:30

School of Professional and Continuing Education
Telefax numbers 400-5425, 523-8888 local 341/342
Email: space@dls-csb.edu.ph
URL: http://www.dls-csb.edu.ph/space

METRO
Text us your feedback: inquirer [illegible] name/age/city/message to [illegible] or 283 (Smart)
E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Ester G. Dipasupil
Assistant Editor Cenon B. Bibe Jr.

**FOR NATURE**
Hundreds of cyclists join the "Tour of the Fireflies," a campaign for the environment urging the use of bicycles, as it kicks off Sunday morning in Quezon City. It aims to bring attention to the problem of air pollution. AP

TRANSPORT STRIKE

# Coding not suspended, says MMDA

**By Tarra V. Quismundo**

IN SPITE of the threat of a metrowide strike by various transport groups, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) said it would not be suspending the Unified Vehicle Volume Reduction Program (UVVRP) today.

"We are not lifting the [number-coding scheme]," said Angelito Vergel de Dios, MMDA Traffic Operations Center executive director.

He further belittled the strike, which is part of a planned nationwide transport holiday, by saying those participating in the stoppage were "only small groups" having disagreements among themselves.

"So what could you expect [from the strike]?" Vergel de Dios said yesterday in a phone interview.

On the other hand, Vergel de Dios announced that other transport groups in the National Capital Region would be busy forging a pact with the MMDA regarding changes in the implementation of the agency's traffic schemes.

### Schemes revised

Following months of meetings, the MMDA and a number of bus, jeepney and FX groups will finally seal an agreement on the revised versions of the Metropolitan Traffic Ticket (MTT) and No Contact Traffic Apprehension (NCTA) schemes.

"Once they sign (the agreement), they will have no more reason not to follow the schemes," said Vergel de Dios.

The MTT is a traffic apprehension scheme that does away with the confiscation of driver's licenses of errant drivers, as traffic violators need only pay their traffic fines in any Metrobank branch.

The NCTA, meanwhile, provides for an apprehension system where strategically posted traffic enforcers with still and video cameras take shots of the license plates of vehicles violating traffic rules.

The MMDA then summons vehicle owners based on their registration records with the Land Transportation Authority.

Vehicle owners are then required to pay the corresponding fine under the MTT.

The modified schemes, which have already been enforced, were changed to include recommendations of the transport groups.

Earlier, transport groups sought a restraining order against the MTT, NCTA and the Organized Bus Route schemes of the MMDA, claiming these violated their "right to due process."

### Backdoor talks

While the case was being heard by the Makati Regional Trial Court, the MMDA met with transport groups to come up with amendments on the schemes that would be acceptable to all.

Among the changes were the extension from 3 to 5 days of the period during which motorists could protest a citation.

Also extended was the grace period for the payment of fines. It was lengthened to 15 days from 7 days.

Vergel de Dios was confident about the attendance in today's covenant signing, as he said the scheduled transport holiday might very well fizzle out.

He said he was expecting the attendance of almost all metro transport groups except the Philippine Confederation of Drivers and Operators-Alliance of Concerned Transport Organizations (PCDO-ACTO) and Federation of Jeepney Operators and Drivers Association of the Philippines (Fejodap), which are two of the biggest transport groups in the country.

# Nokia 3310 costs student his life

A 19-YEAR-OLD college student was stabbed dead after resisting two robbers who took his Nokia 3310 cellular phone last Friday in Quezon City.

Tyron Pahila, a junior at Romblon State University, was walking along Dumalac Street in Barangay Sta. Monica in Novaliches at about 2 p.m. when two men approached him and declared a holdup, police said.

Threatening the victim with a knife, the suspects took his wallet containing IDs, documents and an undetermined amount of money, and his mobile phone, which is currently sold in second-hand stores for about P2,000.

When Pahila struggled, one of the suspects stabbed him in the midsection.

The robbers fled on foot with the weapon, police said.

Traffic enforcers Atoy Rivera and Jonathan Ibe rushed Pahila to a private hospital, before he was transferred to the Quezon City General Hospital.

At 4:50 p.m., the victim died while undergoing surgery, police said.

*DJ Yap*

# Drug buy-bust turns deadly for 2 suspects

A BOTCHED buy-bust operation resulted in an alleged shootout between two suspected drug pushers and policemen last Friday in Novaliches, Quezon City, leaving the suspects dead.

Killed were two men, identified as Cosain Saparo and a certain "Abelarde," both suspected of violating the Dangerous Drugs Act, police said.

### Anti-drug operation

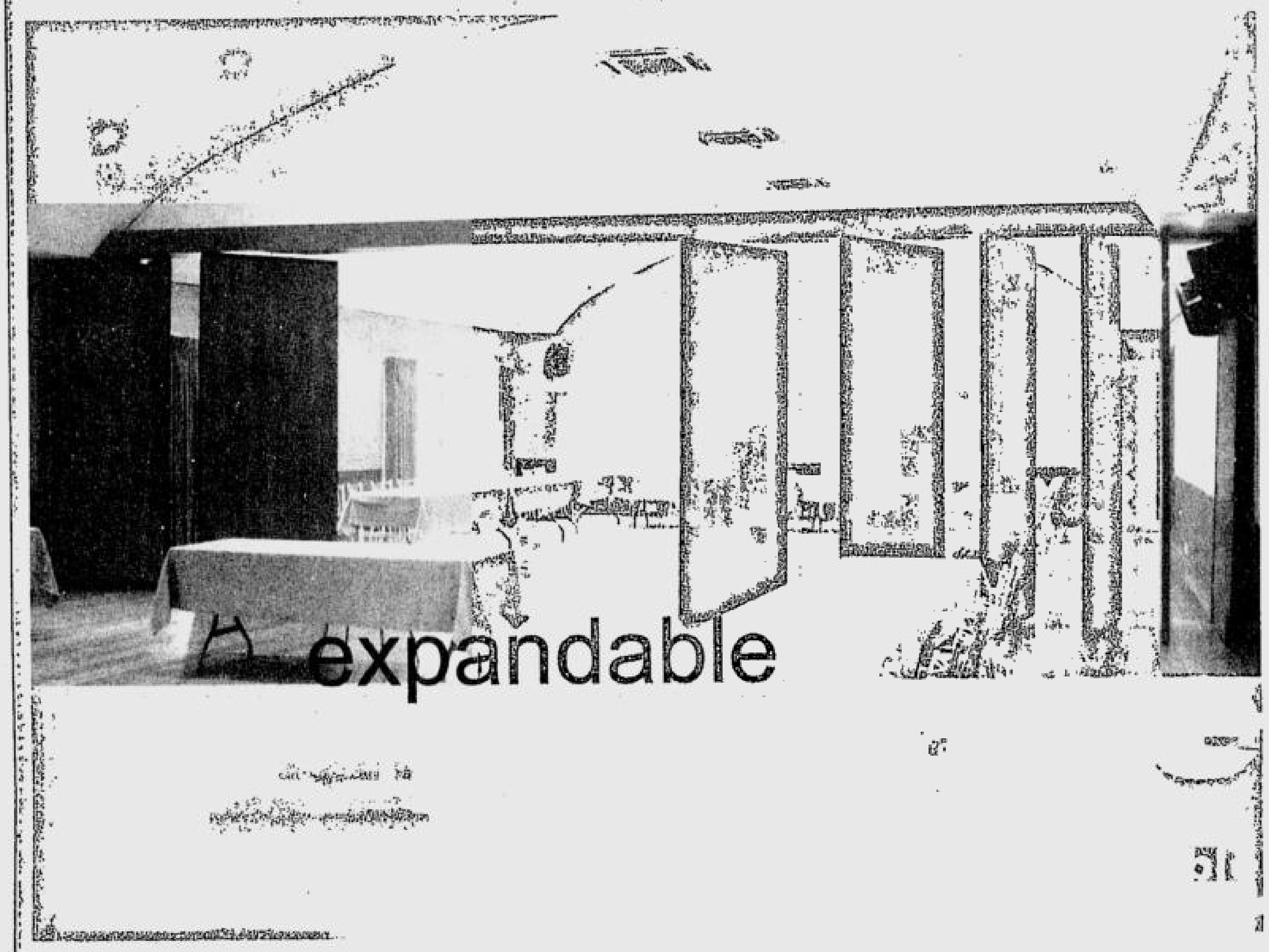
According to a police report, operatives from the anti-illegal drugs unit and intelligence and investigation branch of the Novaliches police station conducted a buy-bust operation with the suspects on Sacramento Street in Barangay Sta. Monica.

The men apparently sensed the presence of lawmen and allegedly took out a .38-caliber and .45-caliber handguns, police said.

The suspects opened fire at the approaching policemen who shot back, hitting them in different parts of the body.

They were rushed to the Novaliches General Hospital but were declared dead on arrival.

Investigators said they recovered the guns, unfired cartridges, and a plastic sachet of suspected metamphetamine hydrochloride, locally known as "shabu," from the suspects.



varifold architectural products, inc.
www.varifold.com
3187 Kalayaan Avenue, Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 882-0271 to 73 / 729-2667 · Fax: 882-0269
varifold@globelines.com.ph

Work. Whatever. Wherever.
intel inside
centrino
MOBILE TECHNOLOGY
ARRIVALS
DEPARTURES
NEO
OWNING THE FUTURE TODAY

Empower your workforce with a NEO Q-Note. Powered by Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology employees have the performance to run their toughest apps.

The new NEO Q-Note M223SB powered by Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology features Combo DVD+CDRW Drive, 3-in-1 Memory Card Reader and Power Cinema in a 30.73cm (12.1") sleek and slim form factor.

Q-NOTE M223SB
- Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology
  - Intel® Pentium® M Processor 725 (2MB L2 cache, 1.60 GHz, 400 MHz FSB)
  - Intel® 855GM Chipset
  - Intel® PRO/Wireless 2200BG LAN 3B Mini PCI Adapter
- Microsoft® Windows® XP Home
- 256MB DDR Memory
- 40GB Hard Disk Drive
- 12.1" TFT WXGA Display (1280x800)
- Combo DVD + CDRW Drive
- Power Cinema
- 56K Modem, 10/100 LAN
- 2x USB 2.0, 1x 1394 Firewire Port
- 3-in-1 Memory Card Reader
- Weighs approx. 1.95Kg
- Free Carry Case

Price is exclusive of VAT

Suggested Retail Price
P 69,999

FREE
Linksys Wireless-G Broadband Router -WRT54G for every purchase of NEO Q-Note M223SB

Promo Period: March 23 - May 15, 2005
See flyers for details.
PER DTI-NCR Permit No. 1087 Series of 2005

FOR COMPLETE PRODUCT INFORMATION, please dial PC-MANIA (632-7252642) / 7260797, email [illegible]
Visit our showrooms: Digital Playground: 4L Cyberzone Bldg B SM Megamall & Gilmore IT Center, Gilmore Ave. [illegible]
www.neo.com.ph

# Anybody could be next, Pasig pol says

**By Luige A. del Puerto**

A POLITICAL enemy of Henry Lanot expressed disgust and dismay at the killing of the former Pasig City representative in broad daylight on Wednesday.

"I was disgusted," Noel "Toti" Cariño told the INQUIRER over the weekend.

"If they could do it to Lanot, how easily can they do it to ordinary people?" he lamented.

He added, "He was a public official. He had served the city many times, and he was killed just like that."

## A challenge

Cariño then posed a challenge to the police.

If they had nailed the person who mugged a Belgian delegate to the International Parliamentary Union assembly in record time, they should also be able to immediately bring Lanot's killer to justice, Cariño said, adding that the police should also get to the bottom of the killing.

Cariño ran but lost to Lanot in the congressional race in 2001.

## Recount

But believing that he was cheated, he sought a recount and was granted one.

After three years, he was declared winner of the 2001 congressional race in Pasig and eventually proclaimed winner.

Cariño, a real estate magnate, served as Pasig's lone representative for one day, probably earning him the title of the "shortest-serving Congressman in Philippine history."

Cariño again ran for Congress in 2004, but lost to Robert "Dodot" Jaworski, Lanot's ally.

Because of his experience, Cariño called the political system "rotten." But it was nothing compared to what happened to Lanot, he said.

"It's not only rotten. It smells," he quipped.

He said the killing was not only a slap on the face of the local and national governments, it reflected badly on the Filipino people.

"What kind of society is this? What kind of people are we?" he said.

Lanot's murder has again divided Pasig and revived deep-seated animosity between rival political groups in the city, he said.

"It has again agitated the people, and the elections is still far away," he said. "And I don't blame them for that."

Lanot's supporters are warning of more bloodshed if authorities fail to nail the murder's mastermind.

They also plan to hold mass actions at City Hall and even turn Lanot's funeral into a protest rally.

Lanot was dining at the Jade Palace, a Pasig City restaurant frequented by politicians, when a lone gunman shot him in the side of the head.

## Dead in hospital

He died in a local hospital two hours later.

Lanot had sought the disqualification of Pasig City Mayor Vicente "Enteng" Eusebio for early campaigning in last year's elections.

When the Commission on Elections ruled against him, he elevated the case to the Supreme Court.

His allies said he was hoping that the high tribunal would be ruling in his favor next month.

After his brief and painful stint in politics, Cariño said it might not be his "calling."

## Dirty system

"Why would you want to join a system that is so dirty?" he said, adding there were other ways of serving the people apart from joining politics.

Cariño said he planned to personally extend his condolences to Lanot's family in the next few days.

Yesterday, Eastern Police District head Chief Supt. Oscar Valenzuela said the police were already onto the trail of several suspects.

"We are hot on the trail of suspects," Valenzuela said. He did not provide details except to say that every time the police received information that might help solve the case, a unit was assigned to follow it up.

"The teams are working, even on weekends and nights," he said.

Valenzuela said investigators were already looking into two key questions: Who would benefit from Lanot's death, and who was angry with him and had the capacity to order his killing?

The police have put up P100,000 reward for any information that may lead to the arrest of Lanot's killer.

The National Bureau of Investigation is also helping crack the case.

# MMDA aims to have child-friendly roads

**By Tarra V. Quismundo**

THE ANSWER to the problem has long been given.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) has this to say about a study showing that streets and roads in the country are dangerous to children.

"We have seen that, and we have been addressing that problem," said MMDA traffic czar Angelito Vergel de Dios.

"It has been ongoing," he said

Safe Kids Worldwide, a global conglomerate of nongovernment organizations addressing children's concerns, released a study last week showing that the country's streets and roads injure or kill an average of 11 children every hour.

The study, based on traffic accident statistics over the last 12 years, rated the country's roads and streets as among the deadliest in the world.

It said Philippine roads had a 7.8 percent death rate among children 14 years old and below.

Blamed for the deaths of young people were the lack of parental assistance, road obstruction, and inadequate facilities that provide safe passage for pedestrians. For the latter two, said Vergel de Dios, the MMDA has never ceased working toward solutions.

## LOTTO/SWEEPSTAKES

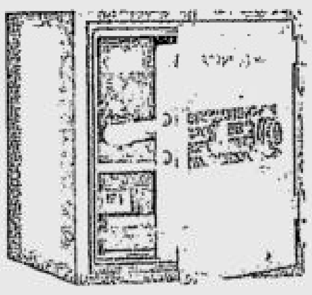
**SUERTRES**
9 9 5
(In exact order)
**EZ2** 30 17

**SUPERLOTTO 6/49**
14 17 19 34 47 49
₱22,799,162.40

**SWEEPSTAKES**
4 3 9 4 5 3 P
₱100,000.00

ASIAN DRILLING & PUMPS
Avecilla Ext., BF Resort, Las Piñas City
Tel. Nos.: 871-5867 • 874-0637 • Telefax: 875-2575
SERVICES
• PERCUSSION & ROTARY DRILLING
• WELL REHABILITATION & SUBMERSIBLE PUMP SERVICING
• SELLS SUBMERSIBLE & HOUSEHOLD PUMPS: GRUNDFOS, GOULDS, MYERS, FRANKLIN MOTOR & PRESSURE TANK
• RESIDENTIAL DEEP WELLS 2" & 3" DIA WELL CASING BY 200-600 FEET DEPTH

diplomat SAFE LTD
YOUR BEST SOLUTION FOR YOUR PRIZED POSSESSION AGAINST FIRE AND THEFT.


A125

Top Quality Safe meeting the requirements of KS (Korea). SP (Sweden). UL (U.S.A). JIS (Japan) and GOST (Russia).
Distributed by ASTECH PENGSON
MANILA (02) 634 8351 to 59
CEBU (032) 344-1185
DAVAO (082) 221-0585

## THE DAILY GOSPEL

Monday, April 18, 2005
4th Week of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 11:1-8
Gospel: John 10:11-18

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. Not so the hired hand or any other person who is not the shepherd and to whom the sheep do not belong. They abandon the sheep as soon as they see the wolf coming; then the wolf snatches and scatters the sheep. This is because the hired hand works for pay and cares nothing for the sheep.

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father. Because of this I give my life for my sheep.

"I have other sheep that are not of this fold. These I have to lead as well, and they shall listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock since there is one Shepherd.

"The Father loves me because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down freely. It is mine to lay down and to take up again: this mission I received from my Father."

**Commentary**

*Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life to protect and defend the sheep from evil, harm and starvation. Anyone else who does not care for the sheep in this way, runs at danger and leaves the sheep to be attacked and scattered. The hired hand works for pay and cares nothing for the sheep. Jesus is referring to many who claim to be leaders, ministers and those who are supposed to care for the sheep—the Church. Jesus is loved by the Father because he loves the sheep and lays his life down for them. And it is amazing what Jesus is saying: that he knows us as he knows his own Father and that we will know him if we listen to his voice. Jesus' intent is to draw all together in unity, the sheep of his choosing and all those who seek him. Are we a part of Jesus' flock? Do we work at unity and communion even among ourselves let alone see to make all one in Jesus' kingdom? Do we really care for the sheep and not work for someone else or for ourselves?*

*Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: cci@claret.org; Websites: http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)*

Sentricon®
Termite Colony Elimination System
Dow AgroSciences
BECAUSE SOME THINGS CAN'T BE REPLACED, DESTROY TERMITE COLONIES BEFORE TERMITES DESTROY YOUR HOME.
TOPBEST Pest Services, Inc.
Tel. Nos.: 933-5429 / 436-4811
Cell. No.: 0920-8992123
An Authorized Operator of Sentricon Termite Colony Elimination System

Tuwing Summer, Ito ang Winner!
PROMAC
My No. 1 Fan
Visit our website: www.promac.com.ph

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

## Ano kaya ang reaksyon mo pag nanalo ka ng ₱1,000,000.00 tax-free!

**1.** suspicious

Ikaw ano
itsura mo?

**9.** "Ows, stop kidding me anymore"

**8.** over-confident

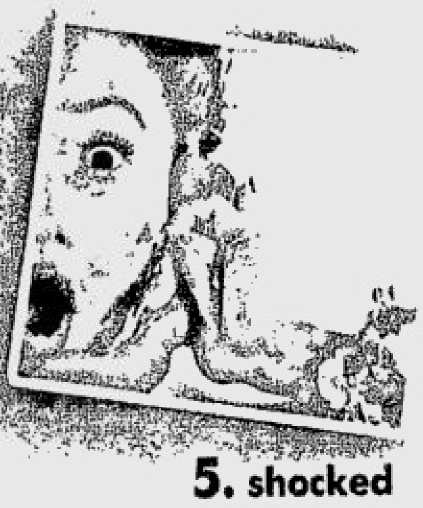
**2.** deadma lang

# 10 expressions of a new millionaire, what's yours'?

**7.** nakakalokah

**3.** heaven

**4.** "I can't believe it anymore"


**5.** shocked

**6.** tuwa to the max

# The PLDT P10 per call P1Million Challenge!

That's right, folks! One million pesos in cold cash ang naghihintay sa PLDT subscriber na may pinakamaraming tawag from April 11 to May 11. Kaya mo to? Ready, get set, go! Tawag lang nang tawag at baka ikaw na ang automatic millionaire!

Mayroon din Ten (10) winners ng instant negosyo showcase worth P150,000.00 each consisting of PLDT Cards (Touch Card, Telesulit, Budget Card and Vibe internet card) plus P10,000.00 in cash.

At di lang yan, linggu-linggo, sasagutin ng PLDT ang latest monthly bill ng 10 masuswerteng subscribers.

plus
**10 Winners**
ng instant negosyo showcase worth
**P150,000.00**
of pang-negosyo cards
and
**P10,000.00**
cash

**WITH OVER 20 MILLION SUBSCRIBERS NG PLDT AT SMART NA PWEDENG TAWAGAN NATIONWIDE, YOU WILL NEVER RUN OUT OF REASONS TO CALL. PERSONAL O BUSINESS CALL MAN.**

## Wala ka pang PLDT landline? Magpakabit na para makasali!

Abangan ang pagdalaw ng BILIS KABIT TEAM na mamimigay ng FREE INSTALLATION at FREE PHONES sa mga sumusunod na lugar: Bacolod, Baguio, Batangas, Cabanatuan, Cavite, Cebu, Dagupan, Iloilo, Laguna, La Union, Malolos, Mandaluyong, Pampanga, Pasig, Rizal at Tarlac.

SPORTS
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Editor
Teddyvic S. Melendres
Text us your feedback: inquirer sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

PC BUYER'S GUIDE
THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE PC MAGAZINE IN THE PHILIPPINES
Available in leading bookstores, magazine stands and computer shops nationwide.
PROVINCIAL DISTRIBUTORS WELCOME. CALL (02)722.5870 TO 73

# Aces plaster Barako, post 4th win in row

**By June Navarro**

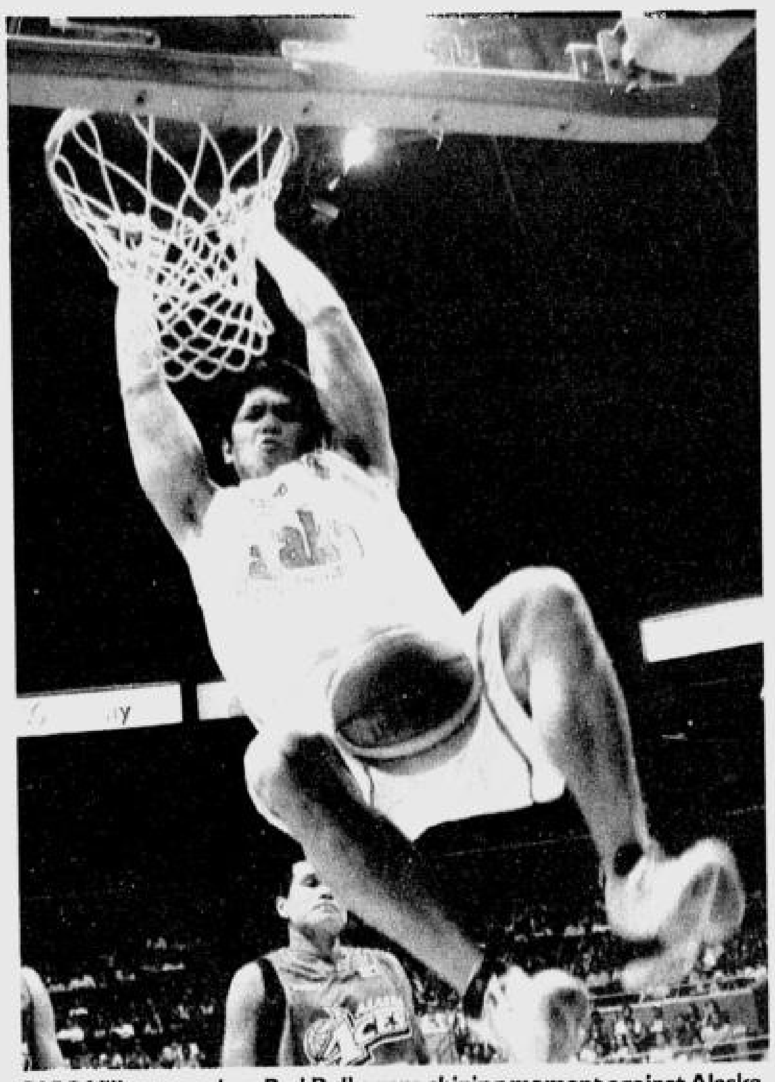
WITH Dickey Simpkins on board, Alaska has suddenly turned from tailender to title contender.

The former Chicago Bulls forward stood out again last night as the Aces continued their winning rampage at the expense of Red Bull Barako, 106-85, in the 2005 Gran Matador PBA Fiesta Conference at the Araneta Coliseum.

After winning just once in their first four outings, the Aces, with Simpkins around, now have four straight victories, the longest streak in the conference so far.

"It was too much Dickey (Simpkins) for Red Bull," said Alaska coach Tim Cone after his import

ACES/ A26



RICO Villanueva gives Red Bull a rare shining moment against Alaska with a powerful dunk off a fastbreak play. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

# Hot Cardona Big Mac for Harbour five

**By Jasmine W. Payo**

IT WAS a shot most basketball players dream about.

With only 2.7 seconds remaining, Harbour Centre was down by one point and seemed doomed. But in one quick sequence, Mac Cardona eluded his guard to receive the inbound pass from point guard LA Tenorio, then buried a three-pointer with one-tenth of a second remaining to lift the Portmasters past Toyota Otis-Letran, 75-73, in the PBL Unity Cup last Tuesday.

CARDONA: 2 in a row.

Cardona reacted with typical aplomb. He raced to the other end of the court pumping his fist and capped the explosive moment with an imaginary dunk on the opponent's basket.

"That was the first time that I had that kind of shot," said Cardona, who was named Player of the Week for the second straight time.

Cardona, showing the attitude that matches his skills, knew that he would nail the basket.

"I wasn't nervous when I made the shot," said Cardona, who leads the league in scoring at 27 points per game. "LA just looked at me and I knew."

Four days later, the 23-year-old guard again went to town with 28 points to lead the Portmasters past Nenaco-San Beda, 79-63.

"There's no doubt about Cardona, he delivers every game," said coach Tonichi Yturri after his rookie team took solo third at 3-1, behind Montaña Pawnshop and Welcoat Paints.

Cardona recognizes the contribution of his teammates. In fact, La Salle's main man finds it amusing that he now plays with collegiate rivals Tenorio, Magnum Membrere and Paolo Bugia of Ateneo.

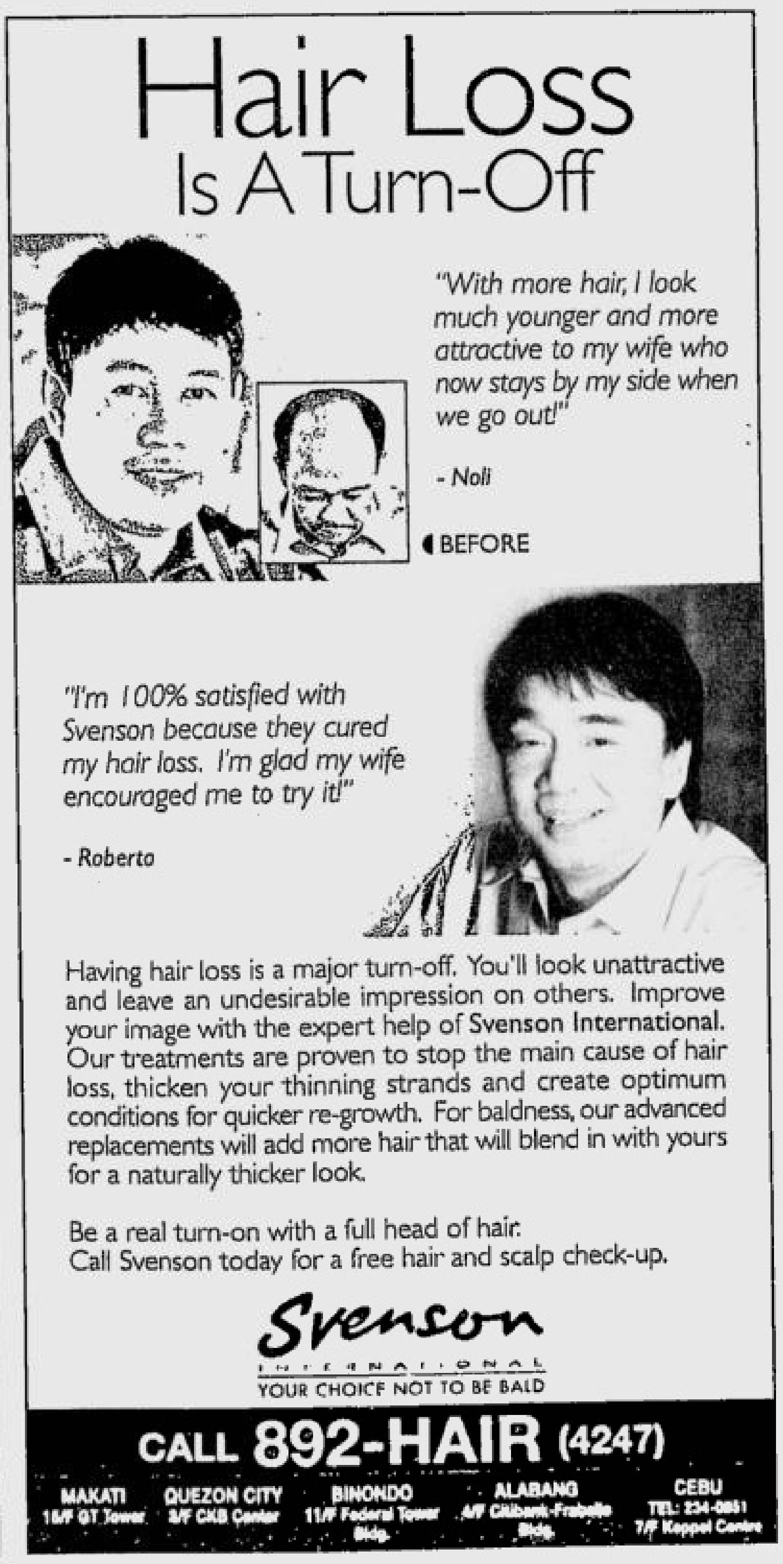
"It's a good experience," he said.

INNOVATIONS By SHARK ACCESSORIES
THE ONLY ONE WITH DOUBLE SIDED EXTRA THICK SECTION FOR A MORE DURABLE CONSTRUCTION
SPECIALLY DESIGNED ENDCAPS
WITH BUILT-IN COURTESY LIGHTS
SHARK Titanium Step
STEEL & POLYRUBBER REINFORCED
SHARK Nudge Gear
LOW MOUNT, CAR PARK SAFE STAINLESS RAILS & BRACKETS
SHARK Roof Caddy
W/ THIRD BRAKE LIGHT, SENSORS STEEL & POLYRUBBER REINFORCED
STYLISH & FUNCTIONAL ALUMINUM SKIRT
SHARK Side Protector
by SURESTEP 1013A EDSA, VETERAN'S VILLAGE, PROJ. 7, QUEZON CITY TEL.: 410-3067 / 65 • 372-3540
We deliver to or install at your home or office.(Metro Manila Only)

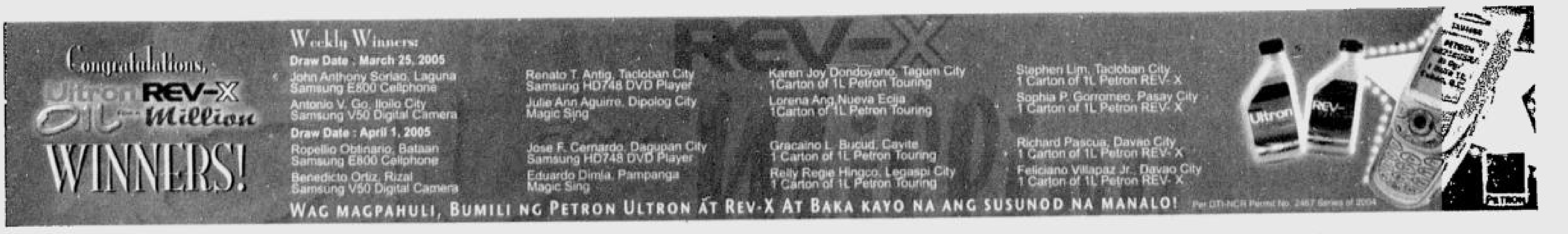
LOOKING FOR A CANOPY FOR YOUR 2005 TOYOTA HILUX?
AT CAMPERSHELLS
YOU HAVE A CHOICE ...
MAGNUM
- RUGGED, SPORTY
- TEXTURED FINISH
ABS POLYMER PLASTIC
ALPHA
- SLEEK, ELEGANT
- SMOOTH FINISH
FIBERGLASS
RIDE
97 Banawe St., Quezon City
Tel. (632) 711-2127 • 711-2162
Fax (632) 731-9287
http://www.rideoffroad.com
Email: info@rideoffroad.com
ALSO AVAILABLE: AEROCOVER FIBERGLASS BED COVER

Korean Ginseng for lasting stamina.
Vitamin E for youthful complexion.
Lecithin for a sharper mind.
Bee Pollen for increased vitality.
Vitamin B5 for better protection against stress and sickness.
Take Korgivit-E
HIGH PERFORMANCE SUPPLEMENT
Get that natural High on 5 experience daily!
Available at mercury drug and other leading drugstores nationwide

JOIN THE UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION OF
AUCTION IN MALINTA
TRUCKS • HEAVY EQUIPMENT • MISC. ITEMS
On these dates:
APR. 22 - 25, 2005
STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP
Inspection dates:
APR. 16 - 21, 2005
1 of 110 Excavators — CAT 320 EXCAVATOR, LATE MODEL
1 of 30 Bulldozers — KOMATSU D65P BULLDOZER
1 of 30 Wheel Loaders — TCM L34 WHEEL LOADER
1 of 15 Motor Graders — KOMATSU GD405A-2 MOTOR GRADER WITH SCARIFIER
1 of 85 Dump Trucks — ISUZU 10W DUMP TRUCK SINGLE EYE
1 of 15 Tractor Heads — FUSO 6W TRACTOR HEAD LATE MODEL
1 of 40 Dropside Cargoes — ISUZU 10W ALUM. HI-SIDE DROPSIDE W/ POWER TAILGATE
1 of 40 Dropside Cargoes — ISUZU ELF DROPSIDE W/ CRANE
1 of 240 Closed Vans — FUSO CANTER ALUM. CLOSED VAN, LATE MODEL
1 of 25 Wing Vans — ISUZU FORWARD NRR ALUM. WING VAN
1 of 35 Buses — NISSAN CITY BUS
ISUZU 10T CABIN ASSY
Valenzuela Exit
Lawang Bato Temporary Exit
To Manila
To Baguio
NORTH Expressway
To Mc Arthur Hi-way
EAST SERVICE ROAD
EVER MEMORIAL GARDEN
AUCTION SITE
ROYAL MALL
Meycauayan Exit
(Former Taish compound) Km. 19 East Service Rd., North Luzon Expressway, Lawang Bato, Valenzuela city
For inquiries please call:
(02)984-6741 • (02)984-6753 • (02)984-0215/16
Trucks & Equipment Financing available thru:
ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp. • Tel (02) 858-8888
Email us: info@auctioninmalinta.com • Visit our website: www.auctioninmalinta.com



Hair Loss Is A Turn-Off
"With more hair, I look much younger and more attractive to my wife who now stays by my side when we go out!"
- Noli
BEFORE
"I'm 100% satisfied with Svenson because they cured my hair loss. I'm glad my wife encouraged me to try it!"
- Roberto
Having hair loss is a major turn-off. You'll look unattractive and leave an undesirable impression on others. Improve your image with the expert help of Svenson International. Our treatments are proven to stop the main cause of hair loss, thicken your thinning strands and create optimum conditions for quicker re-growth. For baldness, our advanced replacements will add more hair that will blend in with yours for a naturally thicker look.
Be a real turn-on with a full head of hair.
Call Svenson today for a free hair and scalp check-up.
Svenson INTERNATIONAL
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD
CALL 892-HAIR (4247)
MAKATI 16/F GT Tower
QUEZON CITY 3/F CKB Center
BINONDO 11/F Federal Tower Bldg.
ALABANG 4/F Citibank-Frabelle Bldg.
CEBU TEL: 234-0851 7/F Keppel Centre



Congratulations, Ultron REV-X Oil Million WINNERS!
Weekly Winners:
Draw Date : March 25, 2005
John Anthony Soriao, Laguna
Samsung E800 Cellphone
Antonio V. Go, Iloilo City
Samsung V50 Digital Camera
Renato T. Antig, Tacloban City
Samsung HD748 DVD Player
Julie Ann Aguirre, Dipolog City
Magic Sing
Karen Joy Dondoyano, Tagum City
1Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Lorena Ang, Nueva Ecija
1Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Stephen Lim, Tacloban City
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
Sophia P. Gorromeo, Pasay City
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
Draw Date : April 1, 2005
Ropellio Oblinario, Bataan
Samsung E800 Cellphone
Benedicto Ortiz, Rizal
Samsung V50 Digital Camera
Jose F. Cernardo, Dagupan City
Samsung HD748 DVD Player
Eduardo Dimla, Pampanga
Magic Sing
Gracaino L. Bucud, Cavite
1 Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Reily Regie Hingco, Legaspi City
1 Carton of 1L Petron Touring
Richard Pascua, Davao City
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
Feliciano Villapaz Jr., Davao City
1 Carton of 1L Petron REV-X
WAG MAGPAHULI, BUMILI NG PETRON ULTRON AT REV-X AT BAKA KAYO NA ANG SUSUNOD NA MANALO! Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2467 Series of 2004
PETRON

# Basketball sec-gen Lim's accuser far from done

By Jasmine W. Payo

INTERNATIONAL referee Liberato Valenzuela may have won the legal battle against Graham Lim but he's not letting his guard down.

Valenzuela knows the secretary general of the Basketball Association of the Philippines will find ways to overturn the decision.

"We're not yet done," said Valenzuela who, along with former BAP official Tito Tagle, filed the citizenship case against Lim which the Bureau of Immigration upheld last Monday.

"He filed an appeal but I don't think he'll win," he said. "We're very confident. It's very clear [that Lim is not a Filipino] in the documents we submitted. That's why he's turned to the President [Macapagal-Arroyo]."

The BI has ordered the deportation of Lim after ruling that he is a Taiwanese citizen and not a Filipino as he has claimed.

BI also ordered that Lim's name be put on the bureau's blacklist so that he would be barred from returning to the Philippines.

Lim has chosen to keep mum over the case. His supporters have sent a position paper signed by 20 officials of national sports associations pleading for the President's help in having the BI reconsider its deportation order.

Lim asserted in his appeal that he was born and raised here, but the BI pointed out that he had filed two petitions to acquire Filipino citizenship via naturalization before the Manila Regional Trial Court and the Office of the Solicitor General. The Manila RTC dismissed his petition on Feb. 9, 1995.

"If he's really a Filipino, why was he applying to become a Filipino?" asked Valenzuela. "In fact, the evidence we presented in the case—his Taiwanese passport, the documents—all came from him. He had them when he was applying for naturalization."

But Lim insisted that the case against him was a result of a power struggle in the BAP.

"He (Lim) dismissed 27 international and national referees," noted Valenzuela, who was one of those fired. "We wrote him a letter three times, we asked for an audience. But we never got any explanation."

# Aces plaster Barako, post 4th win in row

From page A25

finished with a game-high 32 points on top of 17 rebounds, five assists and a single block.

"He dominated in offense as well as in defense and when Dickey decided to take over in the third, we knew we're going to win this game," added Cone.

In the second game, Talk 'N Text leaned on a strong third quarter run to rout Barangay Ginebra, 94-78, and claim solo second place with its fifth win in eight outings.

Jimmy Alapag led the Phone Pals' breakaway and finished with 24 points, while Jerald Honeycutt added 23 and 12 boards to hand the Kings their fourth loss in nine outings.

Eddie Elisma finished with 25 points to lead Barangay Ginebra, which dropped to solo third.

Simpkins struck for 13 points in the third quarter while hauling down nine rebounds as the Aces built an 80-69 advantage.

Sonny Thoss, Brandon Cablay and Jeffrey Cariaso padded the lead to 94-74 as Alaska improved to 5-3.

"During the past games, our offense really struggled. But since we're playing exceptional defense, I knew that one day our shots will fall," said Cone.

"That day has finally arrived," added Cone with an auspicious grin.

**GAMES WEDNESDAY** (*Philsports Arena*)
4:45 p.m.—Purefoods vs San Miguel Beer
7:35 p.m.—FedEx vs Coca-Cola

**The scores:**

**First Game**

**ALASKA 106**—Simpkins 32, Thoss 15, Cortez 12, Cablay 11, Cariaso 10, Hugnatan 9, Hawkins 8, Allado 6, Wilson 3, Johnson 0, Padilla 0.

**RED BULL 85**—Johnson 30, Tugade 17, Torion 12, Villanueva 11, Ejercito 4, Felhi 4, Ybañez 2, Baguio 2, Valenzuela 2, Asaytono 1, Robinson 0, Meneses 0.

**Quarters:** 16-26, 47-46, 80-69, 106-85

**Second Game**

**TALK 'N TEXT 94**—Alapag 24, Honeycutt 23, Telan 14, Camaso 10, Miller 9, Ravena 8, Carey 4, Belano 2, Fran 0, De Ocampo 0.

**GINEBRA 78**—Elisma 25, Caguioa 17, Menk 17, Dimaunahan 8, Santos 7, Salvacion 2, Adducul 2, Echavez 0.

**Quarters:** 21-14, 37-32, 67-55, 94-78.

**STREETBALL ELIMS**
Cairo's Peter Aban (in white shirt) drives off Jervy Cruz (left) of Caravan during their elimination round match in the adidas Streetball Challenge at the SM Megamall parking lot Saturday. Cruz gets defensive support from teammate Hector Badua.

# Samsung Tour's Junior World qualifier tees off

THE CENTERPIECE event of the Samsung Jungolf Tour, the two-stage qualifier for slots to the annual Junior World championships in San Diego, California, fires off today at the Canlubang and Riviera executive courses.

About 200 jungolfers from all over the country headed by a horde of international winners are taking a shot at slots in six different age-group divisions for boys and girls.

Reigning Junior World 7-8 champ JR Gonzales, US Pepsi Little People winner AR Ramos, and Miguel Tabuena, US Kids World titlist and recent winner in the Thailand International, banner the boys' field.

The multititled Dottie Ardina, also a US Kids titleholder, and Hong Kong Open winner Paulina Sotto are among the big names in the girls' division of the tournament backed chiefly by Samsung and supported by Philippine Airlines and Unilever.

Those in Class A (15-17 years), Class B (13-14 years), Class C (11-12) and Class D (9-10) play at Cangolf while kids in Class E (7-8) and Class F (6 and under) will tackle the Riviera executive course.

Organizers said parents are required to renew their membership with the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines for their kids to be allowed to tee off in both venues.

Competition is expected to be tight in most classes, with the girls' Class B pitting some of the best young talents at the moment against each other. They are Crystal Superal, Debbie de Villa, Regine de Guzman, Paulina Sotto, Beverly Mendoza and Mia Piccio, the Bacolod-based lass who leads the contingent of players from the south.

# Cojuangco, GTK out to share stellar roles

**BARE EYE**

*Recah Trinidad*

THE MOST unlikely hero or heroes could come at the most desperate moments.

The RP amateur basketball team, which hit the headlines last week after losing big to a team bannered by actors and comedians, definitely needs a savior.

You know, someone who could put team preparations on sane, safe ground.

That statement from coach Boysie Zamar of the RP amateur basketball squad, who claimed that it was just right to lose early, than when they are already very close to the tournament proper, was more desperate than necessary.

Of course, that shallow defense alone should not take our friend Boysie out of the list of possible RP team saviors.

But for the moment, we have to give credit to Peping Cojuangco, president of the Philippine Olympic Committee, who readily put the handlers of the national team to task.

Cojuangco wants a winner—right now.

* * *

In fact, Cojuangco has invited major shareholders in Philippine basketball to a meeting at his Makati residence tomorrow.

Expected to top the agenda is the offer of the Philippine Basketball League (PBL), main source of the best amateur basketball talents in the country, to form a new RP team for the Southeast Asian Games this year.

The PBL plan, for the record, has the wholehearted support of the entire PBL board of directors, led by its chair, Raymund Yu of Welcoat.

No better solution could be at hand.

At least, there's the strong likelihood the Philippines will be represented by a solid national squad, and not by the one beaten by actors Richard Gomez and Antonio Aquitania last week.

Mr. Cojuangco must've felt happiest with the developments.

Until it was reported in the Star yesterday that Go Teng Kok, basketball project director, has practically turned down the noble PBL offer to field its best for the SEAG title-retention campaign.

In the Star story, Go allegedly claimed the PBL offer was lacking in sincerity.

He also allegedly tried to blame the PBL and other commercial leagues for failing to lend support to the BAP in times when the association had needed help for international campaigns.

* * *

There was a clear misreading of the facts and situation.

So I called up Go to ask him point-blank if he's turning down the offer of the PBL.

No, no, he said, in fact I was the one who brought up that possible solution with Mr. Cojuangco.

But you've been practically shooing away the PBL, I told him.

No, it was just a case of miscommunication, he explained.

What do you mean miscommunication?

The PBL could not see eye-to-eye with Graham Lim.

So, do you have a solution, this is your territory?

* * *

Well, to simplify matters, Go said he has asked Lim, declared an illegal alien by the courts and ordered deported by the Bureau of Immigration last week, to step aside.

Go also told this reporter he would personally bring up the PBL offer and sponsor it in tomorrow's crucial meeting at the Cojuangco residence.

He vowed to fight for the fielding of a PBL squad in the SEAG Games, claiming it was his brainchild.

Of course, there could be a hitch.

What, for example, if Graham Lim refuses to step aside and insists on the fielding of the mediocre Cebuana Lhuillier-sponsored team in this year's SEAG Games?

Well, sorry *na lang*, Go said, I will have to exercise my powers as basketball project director.

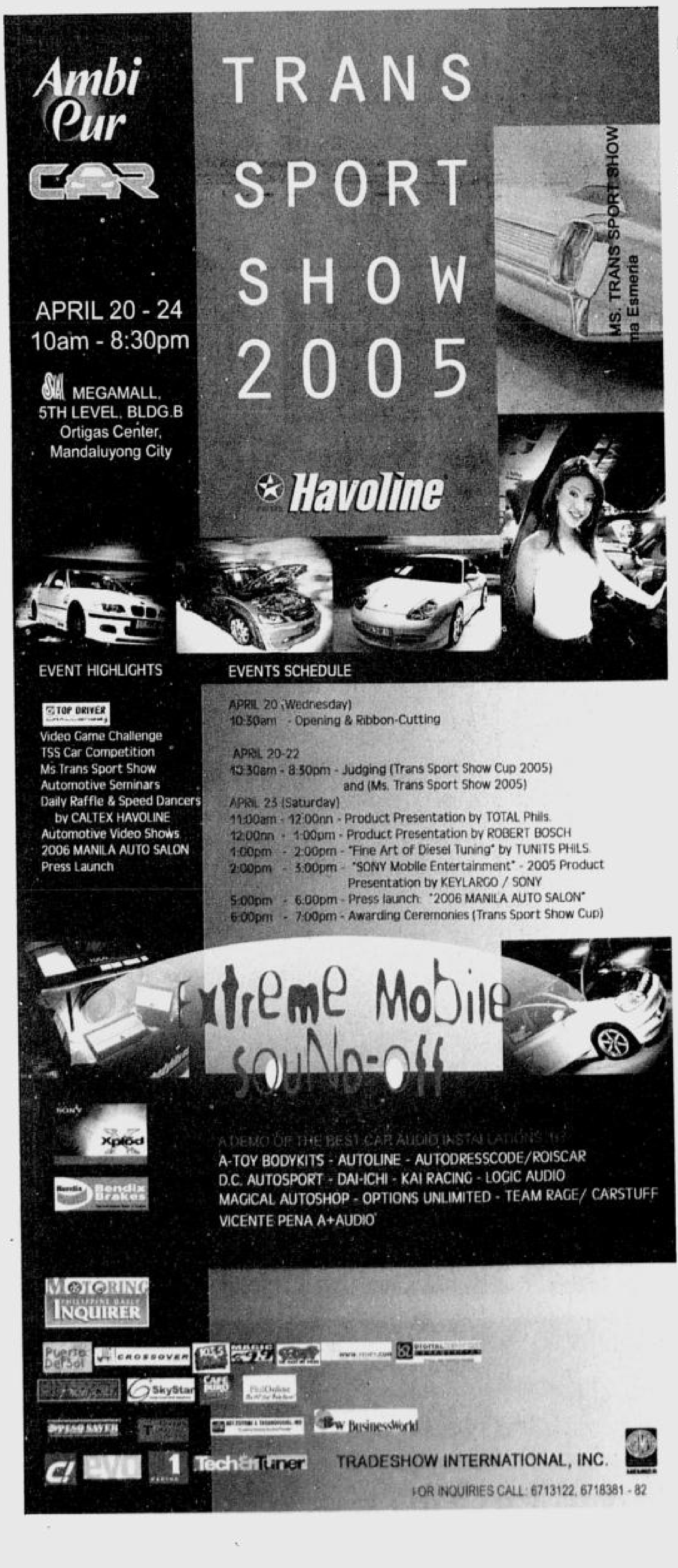
So far, so good.

It seems that Lim would have no recourse but to abide if both Go and Cojuangco agree to the fielding of a team composed of PBL standouts in the Manila SEA Games this year.

The two sports leaders could play heroes and share stellar roles in this search for a savior for the RP amateur cage team.

This is the happy situation as we head for tomorrow's decisive meeting at the residence of the no-nonsense POC chief.

Sta. Maria Della Strada
Golf Invitational 2
Capitol Hills Golf & Country Club
9:30AM & 1:30PM Shotgun Starts
April 29, 2005
For more details, please contact, the Parish Office at 929.7790 or the office of the tournament director, 435.1943/433.0782.



Ambi Pur CAR
TRANS SPORT SHOW 2005
APRIL 20 - 24
10am - 8:30pm
SM MEGAMALL, 5TH LEVEL, BLDG.B
Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
Havoline
MS. TRANS SPORT SHOW
EVENT HIGHLIGHTS
TOP DRIVER
Video Game Challenge
TSS Car Competition
Ms Trans Sport Show
Automotive Seminars
Daily Raffle & Speed Dancers by CALTEX HAVOLINE
Automotive Video Shows
2006 MANILA AUTO SALON Press Launch
EVENTS SCHEDULE
APRIL 20 (Wednesday)
10:30am - Opening & Ribbon-Cutting
APRIL 20-22
10:30am - 8:30pm - Judging (Trans Sport Show Cup 2005) and (Ms. Trans Sport Show 2005)
APRIL 23 (Saturday)
11:00am - 12:00nn - Product Presentation by TOTAL Phils.
12:00nn - 1:00pm - Product Presentation by ROBERT BOSCH
1:00pm - 2:00pm - "Fine Art of Diesel Tuning" by TUNITS PHILS.
2:00pm - 3:00pm - "SONY Mobile Entertainment" - 2005 Product Presentation by KEYLARGO / SONY
5:00pm - 6:00pm - Press launch: "2006 MANILA AUTO SALON"
6:00pm - 7:00pm - Awarding Ceremonies (Trans Sport Show Cup)
Extreme Mobile Sound-off
A DEMO OF THE BEST CAR AUDIO INSTALLATIONS BY
A-TOY BODYKITS - AUTOLINE - AUTODRESSCODE/ROISCAR
D.C. AUTOSPORT - DAI-ICHI - KAI RACING - LOGIC AUDIO
MAGICAL AUTOSHOP - OPTIONS UNLIMITED - TEAM RAGE/ CARSTUFF
VICENTE PENA A+AUDIO
SONY Xplod
Bendix Brakes
MOTORING PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Puerto Del Sol
CROSSOVER
SkyStar
BusinessWorld
Tech & Tuner
TRADESHOW INTERNATIONAL, INC.
FOR INQUIRIES CALL: 6713122, 6718381 - 82

# Que Asia's hero

**SHENZHEN, China — A charged-up Asia won the Visa Dynasty Cup in convincing fashion after trouncing Japan in the 12 singles showdowns in a final day shootout at Mission Hills Golf Club on Sunday.**

Hsieh Min-nan's men, who took a one-point lead into the final day, rose to the challenge, winning six matches, halving four and conceding only two defeats to the Japanese team skippered by Isao Aoki.

The final scoreline read 14.5 to 9.5 in Asia's favor, a result which will send shockwaves back to Japan as its team boasted the likes of world No. 24 Shigeki Maruyama, Shingo Katayama and Tomohiro Kondo.

Asian debutants Angelo Que and Mardan Mamat were the team's heroes. Singapore's Mamat pulled off a 3-and-1 victory over Toru Suzuki to ensure Asia would not lose the Visa Dynasty Cup before Filipino Que rattled home a 15-footer for par on the 18th green to seal a one-hole win over Hideki Kase and give Asia its winning point.

At 27, Que was the baby of the Asian team and the energetic rookie rose to the occasion, winning two out of three points in an unbeaten debut.

"We were expecting a good fight today and I'm glad I didn't let the team down," said Que, who was a late call-up to replace Korea's Charlie Wi.

A jubilant Hsieh noted that Japan brought out a good team this time after losing in 2003.

"Winning for the second time proves that Asian golf has a high standard. We kept fighting and never gave up."

Thai veteran Boonchu Ruangkit gave the titleholders a dream start in the top singles by eking out a 2-and-1 success over Takuya Taniguchi.

Asia's other singles winners were Thailand's Thammanoon Srirot and Prayad Marksaeng and local hero Zhang Lianwei, who beat Maruyama in the last match, 3-and-2. It extended Zhang's terrific streak in Asia's equivalent to the Ryder Cup, winning all his six matches in two editions. *AFP*

**ASIAN team "baby" Angelo Que rises to the occasion.** AFP

# MY Games under way

## *Action starts today; Fajardo, Silva-Netto feted*

THE FINEST athletes 17 years and under from all over the Big City gathered in a festive ceremony yesterday at the Rizal Memorial track stadium to usher in the fourth Manila Youth Games (MY Games).

About 25,000 athletes, top sports officials, city hall officials and representatives from Manila's 897 barangays, six congressional districts, and 130 public and private schools joined in the elaborate opening of the country's biggest sports gathering organized by a local government unit.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza underscored the city government's efforts in putting a premium on the youth through the MY Games, which is backed by Red Bull, San Miguel Corp., Globe Telecoms, Solar Sports, Super Ferry, Air 21, Milo, IntrA-Sports, Concept Movers, Philippine Sports Commission and Pagcor.

"It has always been said that the youth is the hope of the nation," Atienza said. "That is why your City Hall is focusing on the youth by providing them with an endeavor that would guide their path toward becoming assets of society."

Atienza awarded plaques of recognition to Manila's sports greats, led by Olympians Gabriel "Gabby" Fajardo (basketball) and Ben Silva-Netto (athletics).

Songs and dances filled the stadium, with a cheering competition, acrobatic show, taekwondo demonstration and a fireworks display highlighting the inaugurals of the multi-event competition organized by the Manila Sports Council (Masco).

Hostilities start today in badminton, baseball, gymnastics and table tennis, while dancesports will be held at the nearby San Andres Sports Complex.

MICROVAN
(02) 984-0278/79
MEGA SALE!
on April 22, 2005 • STARTS AT 8:30 A.M. SHARP

RANDHAWA
ZHANG
KATAYAMA
VISA

**TEAM Asia celebrates with the Visa Dynasty Cup Trophy. From left, back row: Zhang (China), Mo (South Korea), Sriroj (Thailand), captain Hsieh (Chinese Taipei), Johl (India), Mamat (Singapore), assistant captain Kyi Hla Han (Burma), Liang (China), Ruangkit (Thailand). Front row, same order: Que (Philippines), Marksaeng (Thailand), Wiratchant (Thailand), Randhawa (India), and Jaidee (Thailand).** AFP

# Atienza, 2 other RP track stars nail twin golds

NARCISA Atienza dominated the heptathlon to finish with two golds like John Lozada and Ralph Soquilon at the close of the National Open track and field championships yesterday at the Rizal track oval.

Lozada, who ruled the 800 last Friday, bagged his second gold in the 1,500 meters in 3:57.68, even as foreign standouts took out some of the shine from the locals with triumphs in key individual events.

Atienza, the 24-year-old Armywoman from Rosario, Batangas, who broke the women's high jump record on opening day, finished with a runaway total of 5,302 points by winning all seven disciplines.

Maricris Labaguz of PAF-FEU settled for the silver with 3,381 and Marriz Cotoner took the bronze with 3,342.

Soquillon anchored TMS Shipping Lines to victory in the men's 4x400-m relay after earlier topping the 100-m dash. He also picked up two silvers in the 4x100-m relay and the 200-m.

Mercedita Manipol, who topped the 5,000-m and 10,000-m, and Arnel Ferreira, who won in the discus and hammer throws, were the only other RP athletes to win two golds.

Elsewhere, Thailand swept the 200m with Sittichi Suwanprateep ruling the men's event in 21.27 seconds and Tawaonkarchoen Jutamass topping the distaff side in 24.28.

Indonesia also nailed down two golds yesterday, with Donsianus Kahol winning the men's javelin with a throw of 65.85 meters while Yarita Aririyani and Rose Herlina finished 1-2 in the women's hammer throw.

Chinese-Taipei's Liu Chun-wei topped the men's pole vault with an effort of 4.80 meters. Filipino Emerson Obiena settled for the silver.

Other final-day winners: Maricel Magnilan (girls' 5,000-m), Mark Lescano (boys' shot put), Rehina Lancita (girls' hammer throw), Joey Mary Padilla (boys' 110-m hurdles), Julie Rose Forbes (women's 1,500-m), Philip Ocon (boys' 1500-m), Bernardita Mag-asa (girls' 1500), Zara dela Virgo (girls' 400-m hurdles), Mary Grace Melgar (women's 400-m hurdles), Sharon Jizmundo (girls' 200-m), Ildefonso Lapugot (boys' 200-m), Angelo Dalisay (boys' high jump), Jhomilodin Lucman (men's triple jump), Riezel Buenaventura (girls' pole vault), Mika Santos (women's pole vault), Hanna Gia (girls' discus throw), Laguna (boys' 4x400-m relay), and FEU (girls 4x400-m relay).

# 2nd PIATA Golf Cup fires off at Sta. Elena

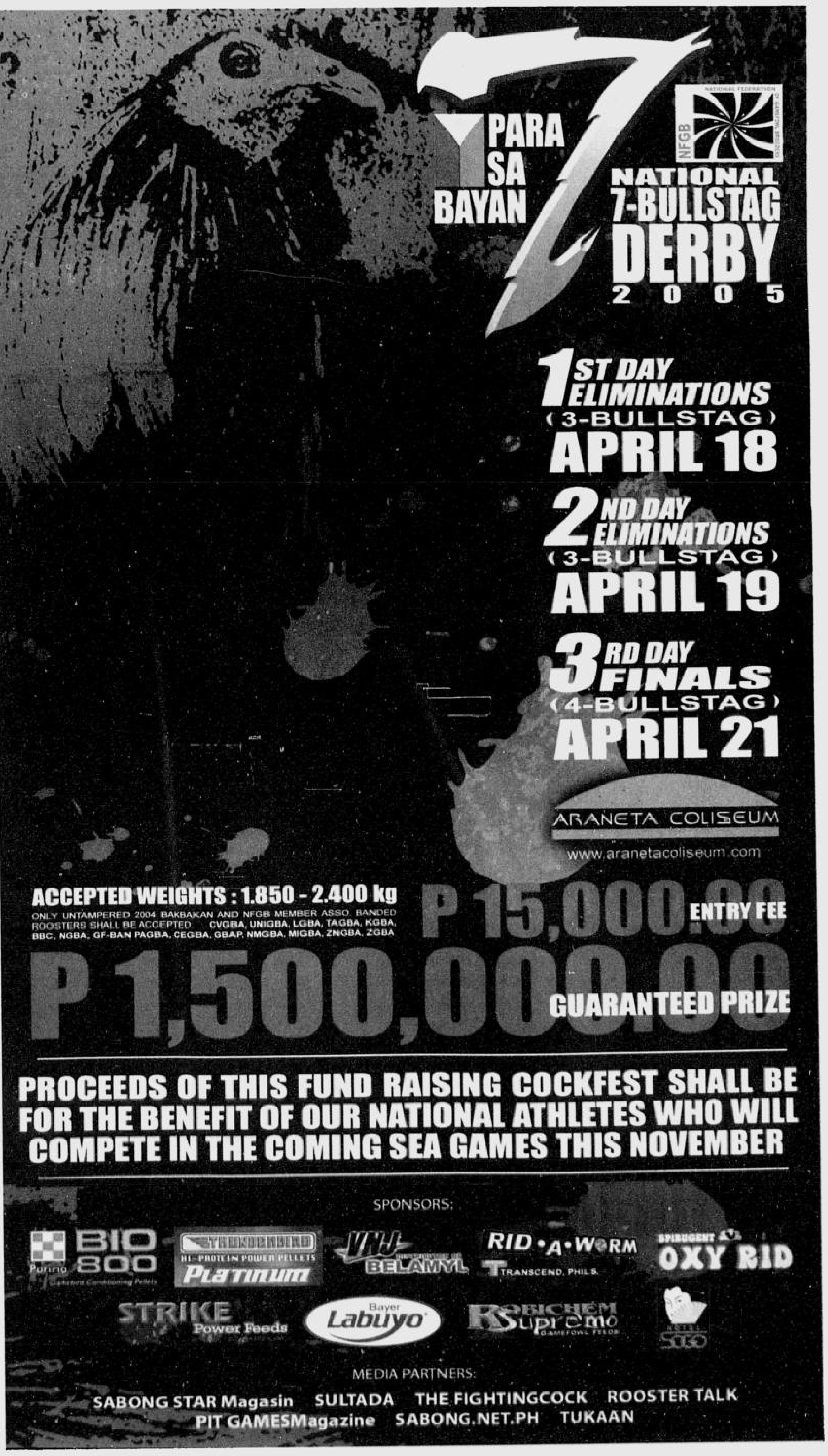
GOLFERS from the travel and tourism industry swing into action today in the second PIATA (Philippine IATA Travel Agents Association) Golf Cup at the popular Sta. Elena Golf Club in Cabuyao, Laguna. Shotgun start is at 7:30 a.m.

The field of almost 200 players are vying for the overall title, low gross plum and the top two trophies in three handicap classes for men and one for ladies in the 18-hole event co-presented by the Transnational Diversified Group and PIATA.

An Aveo car is the hole-in-one prize sponsored by Chevrolet Makati and Alabang and Pioneer Insurance. More than 30 tickets to various international destinations, hotel accommodations in key cities and resorts around the globe and vacations will be raffled off, according to tournament director Frank Khouri.

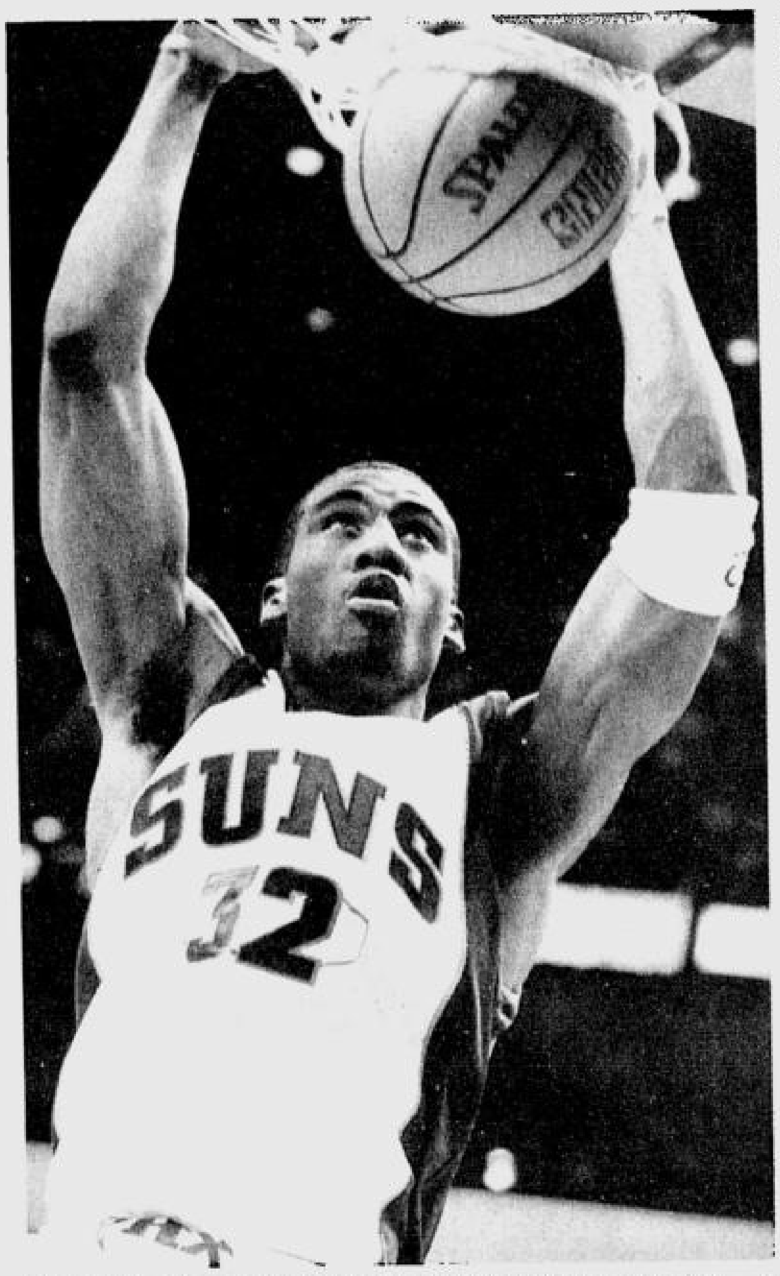
Major sponsors: Crystal Cruise Lines, Amadeus Marketing, Philippine Airlines, Lufthansa German Airlines, Northwest Airlines, Qatar Airways, Air France/ KLM, British Airways, Thai International, Asiana, Galileo Asia, DHL Worldwide Express Phil. Corp., Smart Communications.

Other sponsors: China Airlines, Japan Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Cathay Pacific Airways, Eva Air, Continental Airlines, Cebu Pacific, Air Macau, Golf King, Marsman Drysdale, Kuoni Travel Ltd, Teledata, Suarez & Sons, Montemar Beach Club, Philcomsat, Prudential Life, GG&A, ABS-CBN, Abacus Distribution System, Sunbolt Sports Drink, Clark airport Support Services Corp, Pullman Tours, Sutera Harbour, Nivea, Figaro, KBS Travel, Macau Government Tourist Office, Vacation Asia Philippines, Pacsports.



PARA SA BAYAN 7
NATIONAL 7-BULLSTAG DERBY 2005
NFGB NATIONAL FEDERATION
1ST DAY ELIMINATIONS (3-BULLSTAG) APRIL 18
2ND DAY ELIMINATIONS (3-BULLSTAG) APRIL 19
3RD DAY FINALS (4-BULLSTAG) APRIL 21
ARANETA COLISEUM
www.aranetacoliseum.com
ACCEPTED WEIGHTS : 1.850 - 2.400 kg
ONLY UNTAMPERED 2004 BAKBAKAN AND NFGB MEMBER ASSO. BANDED ROOSTERS SHALL BE ACCEPTED CVGBA, UNIGBA, LGBA, TAGBA, KGBA, BBC, NGBA, GF-BAN PAGBA, CEGBA, GBAP, NMGBA, MIGBA, ZNGBA, ZGBA
P 15,000.00 ENTRY FEE
P 1,500,000.00 GUARANTEED PRIZE
PROCEEDS OF THIS FUND RAISING COCKFEST SHALL BE FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR NATIONAL ATHLETES WHO WILL COMPETE IN THE COMING SEA GAMES THIS NOVEMBER
SPONSORS:
Purina BIO 800
THUNDERBIRD HI-PROTEIN POWER PELLETS PLATINUM
VNJ BELAMYL
RID•A•WORM
TRANSCEND, PHILS.
OXY RID
STRIKE Power Feeds
Bayer Labuyo
ROBICHEM Supremo GAMEFOWL FEEDS
SOGO
MEDIA PARTNERS:
SABONG STAR Magasin SULTADA THE FIGHTINGCOCK ROOSTER TALK
PIT GAMESMagazine SABONG.NET.PH TUKAAN

# McGrady powers Rockets



AMARE Stoudemire highlights a strong third quarter with a slam. AP

**HOUSTON—Tracy McGrady shook off a poor start to score 32 points, Mike James gave Houston a huge lift off the bench and the Rockets won their fifth straight game Saturday, 115-87, over the streaking Denver Nuggets.**

"When a guy like Tracy gets hot, there really isn't much you can do to stop him," Nuggets forward Carmelo Anthony said.

James scored 23 points, Yao Ming had 13 points, 11 rebounds and five blocks and his backup, Dikembe Mutombo, added 11 points, 12 rebounds and three blocks to help the Rockets end the Nuggets' 10-game winning streak in a Western Conference showdown critical to playoff positioning.

"I think the last few games have been a good chance for us to play our game," Yao said. "Today was a good way for us to prepare for the pressure that we will see in the playoffs."

With two games left in the regular season, the Rockets are tied with Sacramento—a 116-98 loser in Phoenix on Saturday night—for fifth place in the Western Conference, a game ahead of seventh-place Denver. The Rockets also took the tiebreaker over the Nuggets in the event they finish with the same record.

In Phoenix, Amare Stoudemire scored 22 of his 38 points in a spectacular third quarter and the Suns beat the Sacramento Kings, 116-98, to move within a game of clinching home court advantage throughout the playoffs.

Stoudemire, combining thunderous, acrobatic dunks with outside jumpers, made nine of 10 shots in the third, when the Suns opened a 27-point lead en route to their fourth win in a row. His only miss in the quarter was a 3-point try at the buzzer.

Joe Johnson scored 22 points and Shawn Marion and Leandro Barbosa added 17 apiece in the Suns' 61st victory of the season, one shy of the franchise record. Phoenix leads San Antonio by two games for the NBA's best record with two to play. One Suns' victory or Spurs' loss will ensure Phoenix the best record in the league.

Sacramento, which entered the game with a four-game winning streak, fell into a tie with Houston for the No. 5 spot in the Western Conference.

Eddie House led the Kings with 17 points. In San Antonio, Bruce Bowen scored 15 points to help the Spurs rout the Memphis Grizzlies, 97-75, the fourth straight game the Grizzlies have missed a chance to clinch a playoff spot.

Memphis needs a victory or a Minnesota loss to wrap up a playoff spot. Minnesota will face Seattle at home Sunday night, while the Grizzlies will return to action Monday night at home against the Spurs.

In Milwaukee, Desmond Mason scored 22 points in three quarters to help the Bucks beat the Orlando Magic, 113-103, and snap a four-game losing streak.

Milwaukee guard TJ Ford shot baskets with his doctor's blessing Saturday for the first time since bruising his spinal cord almost 14 months ago.

In Charlotte, North Carolina, Stephon Marbury hit a jump shot with 1.7 seconds left to lift the New York Knicks past the Hornets, 100-98.

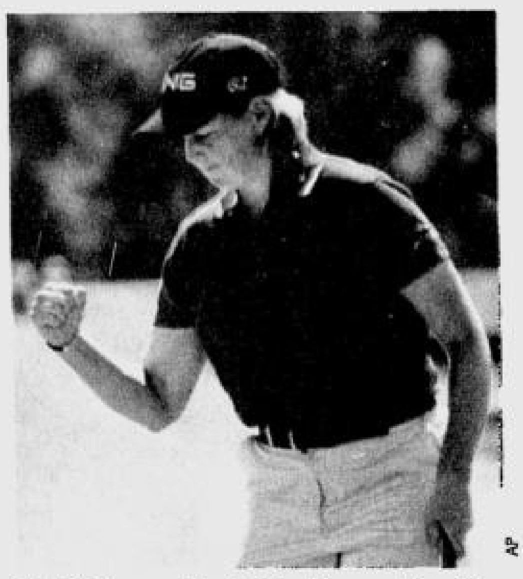
Marbury, who was benched for the entire fourth quarter on Thursday night in a victory over Cleveland, never gave up the ball in the final 20 seconds.

He dribbled off a screen, getting away from Brevin Knight for an instant, and buried an 18-footer from the right wing for the last of his 19 points.

In Atlanta, rookie Chris Duhon made eight 3-pointers for a career-high 24 points, powering the Chicago Bulls past the Hawks, 115-105.

In Los Angeles, Bobby Simmons scored 21 points, Elton Brand added 20 and the Clippers beat the New Orleans Hornets, 94-89, to match its best home record in 12 years.

The Clippers finished 27-14 at Staples Center, tying the mark they compiled in 1992-93 at the Los Angeles Sports Arena. *AP*



AFTER 4 years, Wendy Ward has another title. AP

# Ward snares LPGA crown

LAS VEGAS—Wendy Ward kept her cool and her touch around the greens Saturday for a two-stroke victory win in the Takefuji Classic, her first title in nearly four years.

Ward closed with a 5-under 67 to hold off the charging Lorena Ochoa of Mexico. Ward finished the 54-hole event at 16-under 200.

Ochoa, who vaulted from a tie for 96th into a tie for fourth with a 63 the previous day, went low again, finishing with a 65.

Jennifer Rosales fired a 68 to join a 9-way tie at 31st while Delasin shot a fat 74 to tumble into a seven-way tie for 40th place.

Holding a two-shot lead over Ochoa, who had just finished her round, Ward smiled broadly after she knocked her wedge shot over the water and within 12 feet of the pin on the final hole.

Still smiling, she tipped her cap to the applauding fans as she walked to the green, where she two-putted for par.

Ward had an opening 65 to tie Australia's Karrie Webb for the lead, and a second-round 68. *AP*

# Henin-Hardenne gains final

CHARLESTON, South Carolina—Former No. 1 Justine Henin-Hardenne reached the final of the Family Circle Cup on Saturday in just her second event since returning from illness and injury, beating Tatiana Golovin, 7-6 (4), 7-5.

Henin-Hardenne spent most of last year ranked No. 1 but after last year's US Open suffered a viral illness and then a knee injury. She is ranked No. 43 and was unseeded here.

"It's great to feel this again," Henin-Hardenne said. "It's been a very hard time and I'll have to keep going. It's only one step, another step, but a very important step."

Henin-Hardenne advances to the championship match against second seed Elena Dementieva, who beat Patty Schnyder 3-6, 6-4, 6-0. Dementieva has beaten Henin-Hardenne just once in seven matches. *AP*

# *Nadal wins battle of teenagers*

MONTE CARLO, Monaco—Richard Gasquet was so tired he couldn't think.

The 18-year-old Frenchman, coming off the biggest win of his career, blew a one-set lead and wasted five break points in the final set before losing to fellow teenager Rafael Nadal 6-7 (6), 6-4, 6-3 Saturday in the semifinals of the Monte Carlo Masters.

"I had the game won at 7-6, 2-0 but physically, I couldn't give any more," Gasquet said.

Nadal will face defending champion Guillermo Coria in Sunday's final. Coria beat two-time champion Juan Carlos Ferrero, 6-2, 7-5, to reach his first ATP final of the year.

Gasquet, who is just 15 days younger than Nadal, needed more than two hours to upset top-ranked Roger Federer in Friday's quarterfinals. *AP*

## PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER TV GUIDE

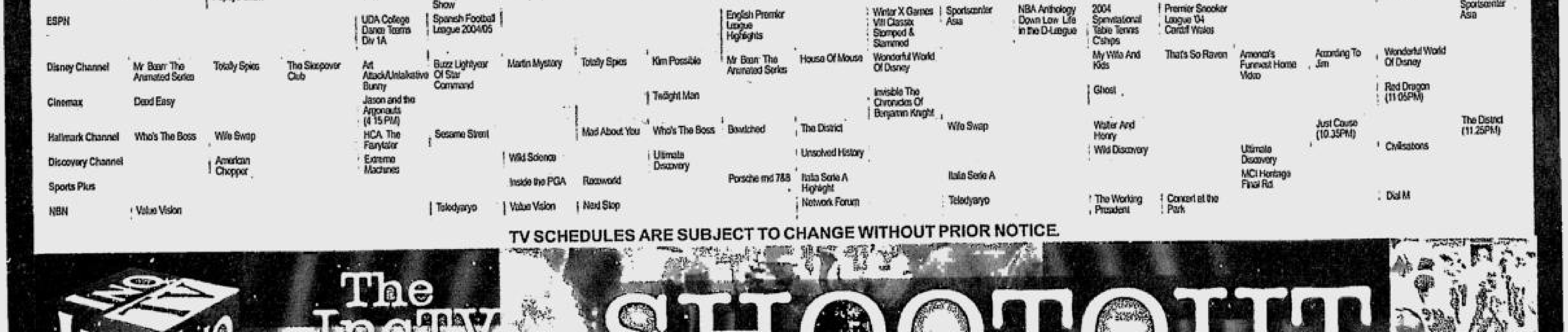
Monday, April 18, 2005

WOWmalingMali!
9PM SABADO SABAGO!
ABC

ClickTheCity.com
[illegible]

| Channel | 2:30PM | 3:00PM | 3:30PM | 4:00PM | 4:30PM | 5:00PM | 5:30PM | 6:00PM | 6:30PM | 7:00PM | 7:30PM | 8:00PM | 8:30PM | 9:00PM | 9:30PM | 10:00PM | 10:30PM | 11:00PM | 11:30PM |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ABS-CBN 2 | Kapamilya Cinema | | | | Showbiz No. 1 (4:25 PM) | Yu-Gi-Oh! (5:10 PM) | Naruto (5:35 PM) | Vidjoking | TV Patrol | | Kamao | Krystala | Hiram | Spirits | Memories Of Bali | Stained Glass | OK Fine! Whatever | | Insider |
| ABC 5 | | | Problema Nyo, Sagot Ko | EZ Shop | Anime Ring Kasho | | | | Sentro | Friends | The Apprentice | | Fear Factor | | Big News | Popsi | | Billboard On-Air | |
| GMA 7 | | Saang Sulok Ng Langit | Now and Forever | Glass Shoes | One Piece | Hungry Heart | Knockout | 24 Oras | | Extra Challenge | | Dama | All About Eve (8:45 PM) | Full House (9:15 PM)/Lagot Ka, Isusumbong Kita | | | Saksi | | |
| RPN 9 | Metro TV Shopping | | Defenders Of The Earth | Hey Arnold! | As Told By Ginger | Wild Thornberries | Sponge Bob | Scare Tactics | The Ring | Infamous Murders | NBA On RPN | | | | | Newswatch Now | Sex & the City | Road Trip | |
| IBC 13 | | Lifestyle | | EZ Shop | | Home Shopping Network | IBC Express Balita | Krusada Kontra Kamon | | Home Shopping Network | | The Hope 1-Million All Filipino | | | | Rooster Talk | IBC News Tonite | Linawin Natin | |
| JackTV | | Wow | | Slamball | | Rastol | Zeta Project | Mucha Lucha! | Spiderman | Stargate SG1 | | Witchblade | | Twilight Zone | | WWE PPV | | | |
| Nickelodeon | Blues Clues | Combo Nick | | | | Are You Afraid of the Dark? | 100 Deeds of Eddie McDowd | The Amanda Show | The Adventures Jimmy Neutron | Fairly Odd Parents | SpongeBob SquarePants | As Told By Ginger | Nick Mix | | | | | | Rugrats |
| MYX | | Urban MYX | | Pop MYX | OPM MYX | Take 5 | My MYX | MYX Daily Top Ten | | Mellow MYX | Rock MYX | Pop MYX | Urban MYX | OPM MYX Countdown | | My MYX | MYX Backtrax | OPM MYX | Mellow MYX |
| ETC | | Complete Savages | Knock First | Blind Date | Fifth Wheel | Elimidate | Change of Heart | Seinfeld | Ambush Makeover | Friends | Will & Grace | The O.C. | | Queer eye For The Straight Guy | | Entertainment Tonight Weekend | | Temptation Island | |
| Cinema One | | Bobby Barbers Story | | | | Ngayong Nandito Ka | | | | Atas Dose | | | | La Fuga | | | | Hanggat Kaya Kong Lumaban | |
| Studio 23 | | Urban MYX | Rock MYX | Pop MYX | OPM MYX | Take 5 | My MYX | Ragnarok | Project Arms | Wazzup Wazzup | Fightbox | Jake 2.0 | | Charmed | | News Central | The West Wing | | Travel Time |
| AXN | | Lost | | The Contender | | Hollywood's Greatest Stunts | E Buzz | 7 Days (Season III) | | Pensacola (Season III) | | Fear Factor (Season V) | | The Contender | | CSI: Miami | | CSI: Miami | |
| Star World | Weird TV | The Bold & The Beautiful | | Hollywood Squares | Home Improvement | Ally McBeal | | The Simpsons | The Drew Carey Show | Star News Asia | Friends | The King Of Queens | Everybody Loves Raymond/ Still Standing | Grounded For Life | Frasier | The Casino/Boston Public | | Friends | The King Of Queens |
| CNN | | | | Business International | | Larry King Live | | World News | World Sport | Business International | | World News Asia | | World News | Living Golf | World News Asia | | World News | World Sport |
| National Geographic | | Built For The Kill | | Totally Wild | Wildlife Diary | Be The Creature | | The Snake Wranglers | Croc Chronicles With Dr. Brady Barr | Weyr | | About Asia | | Nat'l Geographic Specials Mission: Battle Of The Arctic Giants | | Built For The Kill/Into The Lost World | | Totally Wild | Wildlife Diary |
| Solar Sports | In This Corner | | NBA Special: Filer NBA China | | Davis Cup '05 France vs. Sweden 1st rd | | | | Super X Series 1 | Sagupaan | NBA TV Daily | NBA Jam L921 | NBA TV Daily | NBA Game Utah @ Portland | | | | | NBA Inside Stuff |
| Lifestyle Network | Country Style | Interiors By Design | Decorating With Style | Decorating Cents | Molto Mario | Sweet Dreams | 30 Minute Meals | Bill Boggs Corner | Unwrapped | Food 911 | E! True Hollywood Story | | Behind The Velvet Ropes | Life & Style | | Bani Maxwell Show | Modern Girl's Guide | Breathing Room | Genuine Article |
| HBO | | | | Ripley's Game (4:10 PM) | | | | Blankman | | | Reckless Kelly (7:40 PM) | | | The Big One 2 Fast 2 Furious | | | Changing Lanes | | |
| Star Movies | | | Sonny (3:25 PM) | | | South Kensington | | | | Total Recall (7:05 PM) | | | | Terminator 2: Judgement Day | | | | Target (A.K.A. Falcon) (11:15 PM) | |
| Cartoon Network | Scooby-Doo Show | The All New Popeye Show | | Tom & Jerry Show | The Woody Woodpecker Show | Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries | Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles | X-Men Evolution | Codename: Kids Next Door | Gundam Wing | Shaman King | The Powerpuff Girls | Hi Hi Puffy AmiYumi | Ed, Edd N Eddy (9:15 PM) | Dexter's Laboratory | Time Squad | Thundercats | He-Man & The Masters Of The Universe | Gundam Seed |
| ESPN | | | | UDA College Dance Teams Div 1A | Spanish Football League 2004/05 | | | | English Premier League Highlights | | Winter X Games VIII Classic Stomped & Slammed | Sportscenter Asia | NBA Anthology Down Low: Life in the D-League | 2004 Spnvitational Table Tennis C'ships | Premier Snooker League '04 Cardiff Wales | | | | Sportscenter Asia |
| Disney Channel | Mr Bean: The Animated Series | Totally Spies | The Sleepover Club | Art Attack/Unlakative Bunny | Buzz Lightyear Of Star Command | Martin Mystery | Totally Spies | Kim Possible | Mr Bean: The Animated Series | House Of Mouse | Wonderful World Of Disney | | | My Wife And Kids | That's So Raven | America's Funniest Home Video | According To Jim | Wonderful World Of Disney | |
| Cinemax | Dead Easy | | | Jason and the Argonauts (4:15 PM) | | | | Twilight Man | | | Invisible The Chronicles Of Benjamin Knight | | | Ghost | | | | Red Dragon (11:05 PM) | |
| Hallmark Channel | Who's The Boss | Wife Swap | | HCA: The Fairytaler | Sesame Street | | Mad About You | Who's The Boss | Bewitched | The District | | Wife Swap | | Walter And Henry | | | Just Cause (10:35 PM) | | The District (11:25 PM) |
| Discovery Channel | | American Chopper | | Extreme Machines | | Wild Science | | Ultimate Discovery | | Unsolved History | | | | Wild Discovery | | Ultimate Discovery | | Civilisations | |
| Sports Plus | | | | | | Inside the PGA | Raceworld | | Porsche rnd 7&8 | Italia Serie A Highlight | | Italia Serie A | | | | MCI Heritage Final Rd | | | |
| NBN | Value Vision | | | | Teledyaryo | Value Vision | Next Stop | | | Network Forum | | Teledyaryo | | The Working President | Concert at the Park | | | Dial M | |

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.



INQ TV
The InqTV News Video SHOOTOUT
Report the news that you know best, and earn the chance to win P100,000!
Citizen journ...
Read the contest rules at http://inqtv.inquirer.com.ph

MTRCB RATING PG-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP. **OPENS APRIL 20**

**A SPECTACULAR GIANT EPIC**
**NON-STOP ACTION, STUNNING VISUAL EFFECTS**
**AND A CAST OF THOUSANDS.**

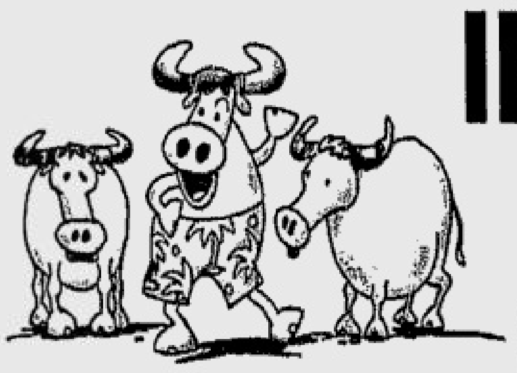
## THE QUEST FOR THE *RING* CONTINUES...

The Nordic legend that inspired J.R.R. TOLKIEN to write
THE LORD OF THE RINGS TRILOGY

KRISTANNA LØKEN
(STAR OF TERMINATOR 3)
RING OF THE NIBELUNGS

---

# From the nation's No. 1 Newspaper: INQUIRER

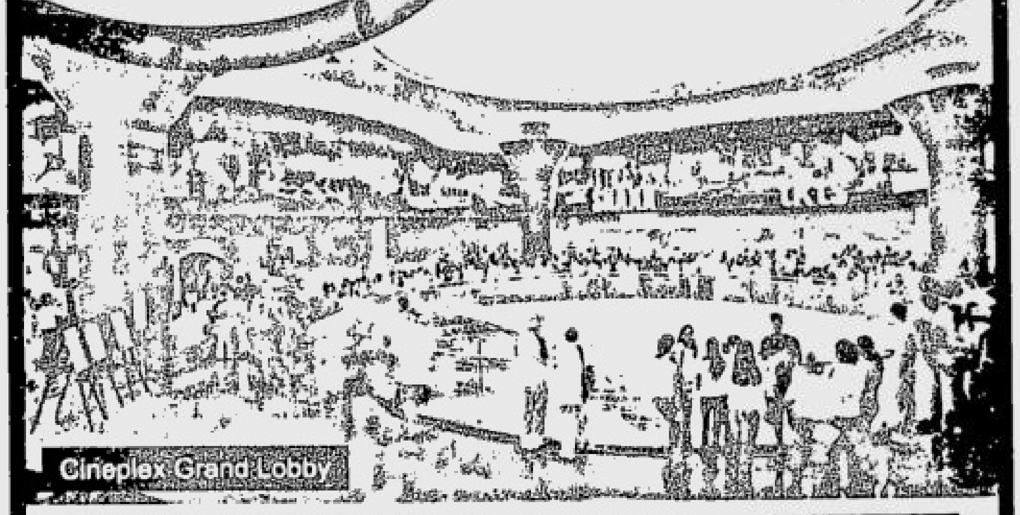


Read it every Sunday
with the
Philippine Daily Inquirer.

**JOB Market**

---

**Araneta center** **Leisure Guide**


Cineplex Grand Lobby

### CINEMA SCHEDULES

**Gateway CINEPLEX 10**
LEVEL 4, GATEWAY MALL

Custom Fabric Seats
& Wall-To-Wall Carpeting
DOLBY DIGITAL-EX
ONLY P99 ADMISSION • P120 RESERVED SEATS

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL TICKETNET AT **911-5555**

**WEDDING DATE**
12:25 / 2:35 / 4:45 / 6:55 / 9:05

**FINDING NEVERLAND**
12:50 / 3:00 / 5:10 / 7:20 / 9:30

**SAMARA RING 2**
12:20 / 2:40 / 5:00 / 7:20 / 9:40

**ONG BAK**
1:30 / 4:00 / 6:30 / 9:00

**SAHARA**
1:15 / 4:00 / 6:45 / 9:30

**THE PACIFIER**
1:00 / 3:05 / 5:10 / 7:15 / 9:20

**SPONGEBOB & SQUAREPANTS**
1:00 / 3:00 / 5:00 / 7:00 / 9:00

**HIDE & SEEK**
12:55 / 3:00 / 5:05 / 7:10 / 9:15

**CLOSER**
12:20 / 2:30 / 4:40 / 6:50 / 9:00

### ALI MALL CINEMAS

❶ **SAHARA**
12:20 / 3:05 / 5:50 / 8:35

❷ **ONG BAK**
12:30 / 3:00 / 5:30 / 8:00

❸ **SAMARA RING 2**
11:10 / 1:30 / 3:50 / 6:10 / 8:30

❹ **HIDE AND SEEK**
11:50 / 1:55 / 4:00 / 6:05 / 8:10

❺ **FINDING NEVERLAND**
11:45 / 1:55 / 4:05 / 6:15 / 8:25

DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

### ARANETA COLISEUM EVENTS

**MARTIN NIEVERA & PATTI AUSTIN LIVE!**
*April 22, Friday, 8pm*

**JA RULE LIVE IN MANILA!**
*April 23, Saturday, 8pm*

**2005 PBA FIESTA CONFERENCE** *Apr. 27*
*4:45pm Red Bull vs Sta Lucia / 7:30pm Fedex vs. Talk N' Text*

**MOSSIMO BIKINI SUMMIT 2005**
*April 30, Saturday*

### CENTER EVENTS

| | |
|---|---|
| SALE EVENTS | *Handyman Spectacular Sunshine Days Sale ongoing until April 28 at Farmers Plaza*<br>*Sogo Home & Office Center Summer Hotshots Sale ongoing until April 24 at Ali Mall*<br>*Perfect Pitch Summer Swing Out Sale ongoing until April 30 at Ali Mall* |
| SPECIAL PROMOS | *Popeye's 'All-The-Chicken-You-Can-Eat For Only P129' promo & Bench 'FREE Tropicana Twister For Every P1000 Purchase' promo, both ongoing until April 30 at Farmers Plaza .* |

LOG ON TO www.aranetacenter.net FOR MORE DETAILS OR TO SUBSCRIBE TO OUR WEEKLY E-MAIL ENTERTAINMENT UPDATES

---

# MMTA
METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

# MOVIE GUIDE

## NOW SHOWING

**SHANG CINEPLEX**
6th floor Shangrila Plaza EDSA corner
Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City
Telephone: 633.2227 / 6337851 loc. 171

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | WEDDING DATE *PG13* |
| 2 (DOLBY) | THE RING 2 (SAMARA) *PG13* |
| 3 (DOLBY) | SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS *GP* |
| 4 (DOLBY) | SAHARA *PG13* |

**PREMIERE**

| | |
|---|---|
| (DOLBY) | FINDING NEVERLAND *GP* |

**Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA**
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DTS) | WEDDING DATE |
| 2 (SDDS) | FINDING NEVERLAND |
| 3 (DTS) | SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS |
| 4 (GOLD-DTS) | HIDE AND SEEK |
| 5 (GOLD DOLBY) | SAHARA |
| 6 (GOLD-SDDS) | PACIFIER |
| 7 (GOLD DOLBY) | SAMARA ( RING -2 ) |
| 8 [illegible] | SAMARA ( RING - 2 ) |
| 9 [illegible] | CLOSER |
| 10 [illegible] | ONG BAK |

**EASTWOOD CINEMAS**
(Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave (C-5) Quezon City)
tel 687.6963 or 72

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | SAHARA |
| 2 (DOLBY) | SAHARA |
| 3 (DOLBY) | WEDDING DATE |
| 4 (DOLBY) | FINDING NEVERLAND |

**CINEMA 2000**
**Cinema 2000 Waltermart Makati**
Waltermart Center, Chino Roces Ave. cor.
Antonio Arnaiz Pio del Pilar, Makati City
Tel 816.4214 / 816.4216

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SAHARA |
| 2 | SPONGEBOB |
| 3 | SAMARA ( RING - 2 ) |
| 4 | WEDDING DATE |

**SUPER CINERAMA**
**Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto**
tel 733.4238

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | RESERVED |
| 2 | RESERVED |
| 3 | RESERVED |
| 4 | RESERVED |
| 5 | RESERVED |

**Masagana CINEMA**
(Pasay) tel 833.3290 / 833.3274

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SAHARA |
| 2 | ONG BAK |
| 3 | SAMARA ( RING -2 ) |

**starmall Movies**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Mandaluyong) tel 724.4986

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | RESERVED |
| 2 | RESERVED |
| 3 | GAMITAN |
| 4 (DOLBY DIGITAL EX) | SAHARA |
| 5 | ONG BAK |

**METROPOLIS star**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Alabang) tel 850.4285

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | ONG BAK |
| 2 | KAPITBAHAY |
| 3 | UNDER RENOVATION |
| 4 | UNDER RENOVATION |
| 5 (DOLBY) | SAHARA |
| 6 | HIDE AND SEEK |

**starmall Movies**
www.clickthecity.com.ph
(Las Pinas) tel (047) 237.7007

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | LEGENDARY STREET FIGHTER |
| 2 | RENTAL RESERVATION |

**Araneta center CINEMA GUIDE**
For Inquiries Pls. Call TICKETNET 911-5555

**GATEWAY CINEPLEX 10**
Level 4, Gateway Mall
The First and Only Real Cineplex
in the Philippines!
ALL THEATERS IN DOLBY EX ULTRA SOUND,
FULL STADIUM SEATING AND EXCLUSIVE
VISTA COMPUTER TICKET SYSTEM
GUARANTEED SEATS, NO STANDING ROOM.

WEDDING DATE
FINDING NEVERLAND
SAMARA RING 2
ONG BAK
SAHARA
THE PACIFIER
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
HIDE AND SEEK
CLOSER

**ALI MALL CINEMAS**

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SAHARA |
| 2 | ONG BAK |
| 3 | SAMARA RING 2 |
| 4 | HIDE AND SEEK |
| 5 | FINDING NEVERLAND |

**MARKETPLACE**
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | PILUKANG ITIM |
| 2 | ALONE IN THE DARK |
| 3 | RESERVED |
| 4 | TEMPTATION NIGHT |

**Universal**
(Manila) tel 733.2470

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | SAHARA |

**Jade Cinema**
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY EX) | PACIFIER |
| 2 | ALONE IN THE DARK |
| 3 (DTS EX) | MISS CONGENIALITY |
| 4 | CLOSER |

**Cine Nepo**
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.0121

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MISS CONGENIALITY |
| 2 | ALONE IN THE DARK |
| 3 (DOLBY) | PACIFIER |
| 4 (DTS) | CLOSER |

**Cine Nepo**
(Dagupan City) tel (075) 515.8489

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | HOSTAGE |
| 2 | CONFIDENCE |
| 3 (DOLBY) | DARKNESS |
| 4 (DTS) | WITHOUT A PADDLE |

**Centre Plaza Cinema**
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MILLION DOLLAR BABY |
| 2 | SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD |

**CINEMA 2000**
Movie Theatres of the New Millenium

**Cinema 2000 Waltermart**
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | CURSED |
| 2 (DTS) | MISS CONGENIALITY |
| 3 (DOLBY) | SAHARA |
| 4 | CLOSER |

**Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall**
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | CLOSER |
| 2 (DOLBY) | SAHARA |
| 3 (DTS) | MISS CONGENIALITY |
| 4 | CURSED |

**Cinema 2000 Cinemagix**
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | BUNSHINSABA |
| 2 | FINAL CUT |
| 3 (DOLBY) | HOSTAGE |

**Cinema 2000 Metrotown**
(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | FINAL CUT |
| 2 | SHAOLIN VS' EVILDEAD |
| 3 (DOLBY) | SORUM |
| 4 (DTS) | HIDE AND SEEK |

**Cinema 2000 Waltermart**
(Plaridel) tel (044) 795.3320

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | MISS CONGENIALITY |
| 2 | BE COOL |
| 3 (DOLBY) | HOSTAGE |

**Lianas Cinema**
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (SDDS) | GRO |
| 2 | KAYA MO PERO MASAKIT |
| 3 | PILUKANG ITIM |
| 4 (DTS) | BENTH LOCHNESS |

**Lianas MovieCity**
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 (DOLBY) | SAHARA |
| 2 | CLOSER |
| 3 (DTS) | MISS CONGENIALITY |
| 4 | HUWAD NA HAYOP |
| 5 | CURSED |

**Mega Center Mall**
(Cabanatuan City) tel (044) 463.3283

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | FINAL CUT |
| 2 | BAHAY NI LOLA |
| 3 (DTS) | MISS CONGENIALITY |
| 4 (DOLBY) | HOSTAGE |

**Fiesta World Mall**
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | ALONE IN THE DARK |
| 2 | CURSED |
| 3 | SEX & ZEN |
| 4 | HIDE AND SEEK |

**Berma Cinema**
(Baclaran) tel 879.2030 / 879.2029

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | KAULAYAW |
| 2 | BULLETS |

**MOVIES / SCHEDULES / PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE**

# SM CINEMA movietime™

The truth needs no translation.
An assasination plot against a UN official is discovered by an interprter, yet she too becomes a suspect.

nicole kidman sean penn
**the interpreter**

Experience the mystery and hooked in this story about political intrigue, hidden plots and deception. Feel it at the newly renovated SM Premiere Cinemas, where a whole new experience awaits you.

• Sta. Mesa • North Edsa • Southmall
• Cebu • Megamall

FOR INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING, SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

CALLUS@ 833-9999

VISITUS@ www.smcinema.co

## SM CINEMA EXCLUSIVE

WICKEDLY DELICIOUS!
Love me if you dare....
Are you game?

The No.1 Smash Hit from France and still touching the hearts of Filipinos nationwide!

Two bestfriends, and a single game. The rule is simple; hold the tin can, meet the dare.

Are you game?

**LOVE ME IF YOU DARE**
MTRCB RATING:R 13

## GUARANTEED SEATS

**the podium cinema**

1. THE WEDDING DATE
12:10 FS / 12:40 MF / 2:40 / 4:40 / 6:40
8:40 / 10:10 LFS / 10:40 LMF / 12:10 END
2. FINDING NEVERLAND
12:00 FS / 12:20 MF / 2:25 / 4:30 / 6:35
8:40 / 10:20 LFS / 10:45 LMF / 12:25 END

☎ 633-8076

**sm megamall cinema 1**

HIDE AND SEEK
12:00 FS / 12:20 MF / 2:25
4:05 LFS / 4:25 LMF / 6:05 END

☎ 633-1901

**sm cebu cinema 1**

SAMARA: RING 2
12:00 FS , 12:18 MF / 2:36 / 4:54 / 7:12
9:12 LFS / 9:30 LMF / 11:30 END

☎ (032) 231-3876

## METRO MANILA

**sm megamall**

1. HIDE AND SEEK
2. SAMARA: RING 2
3. FINDING NEVERLAND
4. SAHARA
5. SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
6. THE WEDDING DATE
7. CLOSER
8. THE PACIFIER
9. ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR
10. RESERVED
11. RESERVED
12. RESERVED

**sm city fairview**

1. HIDE AND SEEK
2. BOOGEYMAN
3. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
4. SAHARA
5. THE WEDDING DATE
6. FINDING NEVERLAND
7. SAMARA: RING 2
8. SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
9. THE PACIFIER
10. ROBOTS
11. LOVE ME IF YOU DARE
12. BAHAY NI LOLA 2

**sm city north edsa**

1. RESERVED
2. RESERVED
3. ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR
4. THE WEDDING DATE
5. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
6. FINDING NEVERLAND
7. SAHARA
8. SAMARA: RING 2

**sm city sta. mesa**

1. SAMARA: RING 2
2. THE WEDDING DATE
3. FINDING NEVERLAND
4. RESERVED
5. RESERVED
6. BOOGEYMAN
7. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
8. SAHARA
9. ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR
10. THE PACIFIER

**sm city southmall**

1. RESERVED
2. RESERVED
3. SAMARA: RING 2
4. THE WEDDING DATE
5. HIDE AND SEEK
6. THE PACIFIER
7. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
8. ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR
9. SAHARA
10. FINDING NEVERLAND

**sm city manila**

1. THE WEDDING DATE
2. THE PACIFIER
3. FINDING NEVERLAND
4. SAHARA
5. THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
6. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
7. ALONE IN THE DARK
8. CLOSER
9. SAMARA: RING 2
10. BOOGEY MAN
11. ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR
12. HIDE AND SEEK

**sm cinema tutuban**

1. RESERVED
2. RESERVED
3. RESERVED
4. RESERVED

**sm supercenter sucat**

1. SAMARA: RING 2
2. ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR
3. SAHARA
4. THE WEDDING DATE

**sm city bicutan**

1. SAHARA
2. THE WEDDING DATE
3. SAMARA: RING 2
4. ONG BAK: THA THAI WARRIOR

## LUZON

**sm city pampanga**

1. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2. FINDING NEVERLAND
3. HOSTAGE
4. CLOSER
5. BOOGEYMAN
6. THE PACIFIER

**sm city baguio**

1. BE COOL
2. SAMARA: RING 2
3. SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
4. THE PACIFIER

**sm city batangas**

1. HIDE AND SEEK
2. CLOSER
3. MILLION DOLLAR BABY
4. FINDING NEVERLAND

**sm city marilao**

1. FINDING NEVERLAND
2. SHAOLIN v.s EVIL DEAD
3. THE PACIFIER
4. BE COOL

**sm city bacoor**

1. HIDE AND SEEK
2. FINDING NEVERLAND
3. SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
4. SAMARA: RING 2
5. SAHARA
6. THE PACIFIER
7. THE WEDDING DATE
8. MS. CONGENIALITY 2

**sm city dasmariñas**

1. FINDING NEVERLAND
2. BE COOL
3. THE WEDDDING DATE
4. SAMARA: RING 2

**sm city lucena**

1. HOSTAGE
2. FINDING NEVERLAND
3. FINAL CUT
4. MS. CONGENIALITY 2

## VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

**sm city cebu**

1. HITCH
2. RESERVED
3. THE PACIFIER
4. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
5. ASSAULT ON PRECINT 13
6. SAMARA: RING 2
7. HOSTAGE
8. SAHARA

**sm city iloilo**

1. CONFIDENCE
2. RESERVED
3. BE COOL
4. SHAOLIN v.s EVIL DEAD
5. HOSTAGE
6. CLOSER
7. RESERVED
8. ALONE IN THE DARK

**sm city davao**

1. SAHARA
2. CONFIDENCE
3. SON OF THE MASK 2
4. BE COOL
5. CLOSER
6. HOSTAGE

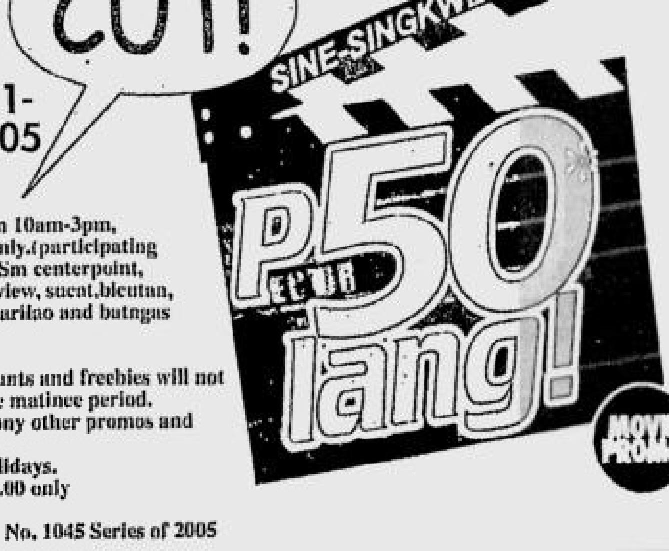
**sm city cagayan de oro**

1. MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2. ROBOTS
3. MILLION DOLLAR BABY
4. HOSTAGE

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

## smcinemapromo

Nood na!


CUT!
SINE-SINGKWENTA
P50 lang!
MOVIE PROMO

**Promo runs from March 1- April 26, 2005**

•Promo available from 10am-3pm, monday and tuesdayonly.(participating SM Cinema brnches: Sm centerpoint, southmall,bacoor,fairview, sucat,bicutan, ilo-ilo,davao,lucena,marilao and batngas and cagayan de oro)

•SM Advantage discounts and freebies will not be honored during the matinee period.
•Not applicable with any other promos and discounts.
•Not applicable on holidays.
•Cagayan de Oro P40.00 only

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1045 Series of 2005

---

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

## Kiss & Tell About The Hottest Date Flick Of The Year

DEBRA MESSING
DERMOT MULRONEY
**The WEDDING DATE**

SHE PAID HIM $6,000 TO BE HER DATE AND GOT A-ONE-IN-A-MILLION LOVE AS BONUS.

NOW SHOWING

VIVA

---

## EASTWOOD CINEMAS

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

**Voted Best Movie Theater -Philippine Daily Inquirer's 2004 Yearend Reader Survey**

For inquiries, call
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

**SAMARA** RING 2
12:35, 3:10, 5:45
8:20 10:50,
PG-13

**SAHARA**
11:55, 2:45, 5:35
8:25, 11:05
PG 13

**WEDDING DATE**
11:10, 1:30, 3:50
6:10, 8:30, 10:50
PG 13

**FINDING NEVERLAND**
12:05, 2:15, 4:25
6:35, 8:45, 10:55
GP

---

## POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND•EX

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| FINDING NEVERLAND<br>GP<br>12:40,3:00,5:20,7:40,10:00 | THE SPONGEBOB MOVIE<br>GP<br>1:25,3:35,5:45,7:55,10:05 | SAHARA<br>PG13<br>12:15,2:45,5.15,7:45,10:20 |
| THE RING 2<br>PG13<br>12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10 | HIDE AND SEEK<br>PG13<br>12:50,3:10,5:30,7:50,10:10 | WEDDING DATE<br>PG13<br>12:00,2:00,4:00,<br>6:00,8:00,10:00 |

---

## THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS

*a landmark reinvented!*

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND•EX

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 **THE WEDDING DATE**
11:10 , 1:30 , 3:40 , 5:50 , 8:00 , 10:10
**PG13**

CINEMA 2 **FINDING NEVERLAND**
11:10 , 1:25 , 3:35 , 5:45 , 7:55, 10:10
**GP**

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM APRIL 28 2005 LOVE IN APRIL PILITA CORRALES 30PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

---

## SHANG CINEPLEX

① **WEDDING DATE**
MTRCB. PG-13
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

② **THE RING 2 (SAMARA)**
MTRCB PG-13
11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50

③ **THE SPONGEBOB**
MTRCB: GP
12:15, 2:25 4:35, 6:45, 9:00

④ **SAHARA**
MTRCB. PG-13
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

PREMIERE THEATRE **FINDING NEVERLAND**
MTRCB GP 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

*Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.*

### Enjoy Double Treats

Get one (1) free URBANSPA Express Massage or a P250 Urban Spa cash coupon for every single purchase of four (4) Shang Cineplex (Cinema 1-4) or Two (2) Premiere Theatre tickets.

### Chocolate Delights

Get four (4) FREE Spongebob Squarepants chocolates for every purchase of one (1) Spongebob Movie Ticket and a minimum single receipt purchase of P150 at the Shang Cinebar
Promo Period. April 6 - 19, 2005

See posters for details

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2005

Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P150
Premiere Theatre - P295 includes [illegible]
Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 / 633-4736 for more details.

Shangri-La Plaza

---

# More employment opportunities in today's

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
**JOB Market**
*Where You Find The Best.*

---

# THE JACKET

## A haunting thriller combining *THE SIXTH SENSE* and *THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT*

Oscar-winner *Adrien Brody* (THE PIANO) and *Kiera Knightley* ( King Arthur) star in the haunting thriller *THE JACKET*, a story about a Gulf War veteran who finds himself trapped inside another terrifying scenario. Shot in the head while in Iraq, Jack Starks (Brody) has returned home only to be convicted of a murder that he didn't commit. Still reeling from his wartime trauma, Jack is found not guilty by reason of insanity and is committed to an institution for the criminally insane. Once there, he is drugged by the evil Dr. Becker (Kris Kristofferson) and placed into a coffin-like drawer on a nightly basis. Inside the drawer, after being tormented with horrific war flashbacks, Jack is mysteriously transported to the future, where he forms a tender relationship with the beautiful Jackie (Keira Knightley). Aware that he is destined to die in four days, Jack must use his new gift to figure out what happened to him, with the hopes of altering the course of his life.

*THE JACKET* is a haunting thriller combining the themes of THE SIXTH SENSE and THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT and is directed by John Maybury. The film features another electrifying performance from Brody. Acclaimed artist Brian Eno contributes a transcendent score, which contrasts beautifully with Peter Deming's stark cinematography. As Jackie, Knightley proves once again that she's more than just a pretty face.

*ADDED BONUS*: For those who would love to see *Kiera Knightley naked*. *THE JACKET* is the answer to their prayers. Warner Bros. Distributes.

Kiera Kightley in THE JACKET

ADVT

# ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

**CINEMA ACCESS**
**635-5555**
**FOR ALL BRANCHES**

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

## GALLERIA
632-9115/16

1 THE PACIFIER • THX
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

2 SAMARA - RING 2
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
11:00 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00

4 ONG BAK
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

5 SAHARA
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

6 THE WEDDING DATE
11:10 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00

7 HIDE AND SEEK
1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00

8 BOSO
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

9 CLOSER
1:25 3:35 5:45 7:55 10:00

10 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00

## ERMITA
536-7809 to 12

1 SAHARA
11:10 1:40 4:15 6:55 9:40

2 ONG BAK
10:40 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50

3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
10:30 12:25 2:20 4:15 6:10 8:05 10:00

4 THE WEDDING DATE
10:20 12:15 2:10 4:05 6:00 7:55 10:00

5 SAMARA RING 2
10:40 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50

6 BOSO
10:40 12:50 3:00 5:10 7:20 9:40

7 HIDE AND SEEK
10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

## METRO EAST
682-8193 • 682-8199

1 ONG BAK
11:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 9:10

2 THE PACIFIER
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

3 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
10:45 1:15 3:45 6:15 9:00

4 HIDE AND SEEK
11:30 1:50 4:10 6:30 9:00

5 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 8:50 10:30

6 SAMARA RING 2
12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30

7 SAHARA
11:50 2:30 5:10 7:50 10:30

8 THE WEDDING DATE
10:50 1:10 3:30 5:50 8:10 10:30

## NOVALICHES
935-3229/31

1 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
11:00 1:00 3:00 4:50 6:40 8:30

2 SAMARA RING 2
10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25

3 ASTERIX AND OBELIX
12:00 2:00 4:00 6:10 8:30

4 HIDE AND SEEK
12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25

5 THE WEDDING DATE
11:40 1:50 4:00 6:10 8:25

6 SAHARA
11:50 2:40 5:30 8:25

7 RESERVE

8 RESERVE

## PIONEER
687-5378

1 SAHARA
2 THE PACIFIER
3 SAMARA RING 2
4 THE WEDDING DATE

## CITISQUARE MALABON
288-2575

1 BE COOL
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
3 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
4 PILUKANG ITIM

## CAINTA
240-4661

1 ONG BAK
2 SAMARA RING 2
3 SAHARA
4 THE WEDDING DATE

*Boso is the first digital film by **DIGITAL VIVA** and is directed by the award-winning director, **JON RED***

"BOSO, shot on a digital video, is a sexy dark comedy about Jake, caretaker of a boarding house by day and a peeping-Tom by night. In a place filled with twisted characters and absurd lives, he oversees each tenat's secrets, daily routines and private world. Jake continues "playing God" until he meets and falls for Cecilia, a woman who makes him realize the essence of beauty - unseen by the eyes. Later, a tragic accident leads to an unexpected twist and dramatic confrontation.

Starring:
KATYA SANTOS, ALLEN DIZON, GWEN GARCI, JEFFREY QUIZON

*watch it exclusively at*

**ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA and ERMITA**

*Rated R-18 by MTRCB*

**april 13-19**

## STA. ROSA
(049) 837-0907

1 SAHARA
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
3 NANG NAK
4 CLOSER
5 CURSED

## LIPA
(043) 757-3664
(043) 312-5870

1 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2 ALONE IN THE DARK
3 5 CHILDREN AND IT
4 HIDE AND SEEK
5 CURSED

## DASMARIÑAS
(046) 852-2126
(046) 416-4332

1 BE COOL
2 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
3 THE WEDDING DATE
4 SAMARA RING 2
5 BOOGEYMAN

## ANGELES
(045) 892-2348

1 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
2 ALONE IN THE DARK
3 CLOSER
4 THE PACIFIER

## IMUS
(046) 875-3838
(046) 471-8188

1 PILUKANG ITIM
2 THE WEDDING DATE
3 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS
4 SAMARA RING 2
5 BE COOL
6 SAHARA

## STARMILLS
(045) 875-1927
(045) 961-5270

1 HAROLD AND KUMAR
2 BOOGEYMAN
3 THE PACIFIER
4 CLOSER
5 MS. CONGENIALITY 2
6 CURSED

## BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453
(034) 441-0459

1 HIDE AND SEEK
2 CLOSER
3 HOSTAGE
4 THE FINAL CUT
5 CURSED
6 SPANGLISH

## ILOILO
(033) 336-8070

1 BE COOL
2 CONFIDENCE
3 CLOSER
4 HOSTAGE
5 SHAOLIN VS. EVIL DEAD
6 LITTLE BLACK BOOK

The
Perfect Gift
All Year Round

A Pre Paid Movie Pass to the Hottest Seats in town.

Get Special discounts for volume purchases!

For marketing and events/reservations please call Marketing Services Department at 687-7945 to 47 locals 14 and 15

---

AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN

AYALA CENTER
CEBU

AYALA MALLS
Lovemall!

# TIMEZONE RELOADED!

Free games everytime you reload!

P100 RELOAD
+ P10 bonus load + 1 free game
P200 RELOAD
+ P30 bonus load + 2 free games
P300 RELOAD
+ P50 bonus load + 3 free games
P400 RELOAD
+ P70 bonus load + 4 free games
P500 RELOAD
+ P100 bonus load + 5 free games

TIMEZONE
"Time For Fun!"

## At the Activity Center

| GLORIETTA | ALABANG TOWN CENTER | AYALA CENTER CEBU |
|---|---|---|
| Anson Emporium Appliance Madness<br>April 8-18, 2005 | Enchanted Kingdom<br>April 21 - 24, 2005 | BPI Automadness<br>Opening Ceremonies<br>April 21, 2005 |

AYALA
GREENBELT

**A Day with An Artist**
**April 23 & 30, 2005**

GREENBELT Onstage

**REPERTORY PHILIPPINES presents**
**Whose Wife is it Anyway?**
**at REP's GLOBE THEATER for the Month of April**
**· For inquiries, please call 887-0710**

Ayala MUSEUM

**Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue.**
**For inquiries, please call 757-7117.**

# AYALA CINEMAS

AYALA CINEMAS

THX

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS GB4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| G1 | GLORIETTA 1 | 1 SAMARA (RING 2) | 2 THE WEDDING DATE | 3 SAHARA | 4 PELUKANG ITIM |
| G4 | GLORIETTA 4 | 1 SAMARA (RING 2) | 2 FINDING NEVERLAND | 3 THX SAHARA<br>12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | |
| | | 4 ONG BAK: THE THAI WARRIOR | 5 THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS | 6 THE WEDDING DATE | 7 HIDE & SEEK |
| GB1 | GREENBELT 1 | 1 SAHARA<br>11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 | 2 THE WEDDING DATE<br>12:50, 2:55, 5.00, 7.05, 9.10 | | |
| GB3 | GREENBELT 3 | 1 THX SAMARA (RING 2)<br>2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10, 11:30<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | 2 THX THE WEDDING DATE<br>1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | | |
| | | 3 CLOSER<br>2:40, 4:45, 6:50, 8:55, 11:00<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | 4 FINDING NEVERLAND<br>1:05, 3:10, 5:15, 7:20, 9:25, 11:30<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | 5 SAHARA<br>1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20<br>GUARANTEED SEATS | |
| ATC | ALABANG TOWN CENTER | 1 THX THE WEDDING DATE | 2 SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS | | |
| | | 3 SAMARA (RING 2) | 4 FINDING NEVERLAND | 5 SAHARA | |
| ACC | AYALA CENTER CEBU | 1 SAMARA (RING 2) | 2 THE PACIFIER | 3 MS. CONGENIALITY 2 | 4 SAHARA |

## Experience Show Business At Its Best!

Welcome to a **new level** of urban retail entertainment.

**MyCinema** is where you can **enjoy** the latest movies, hang-out and **party** or do impressive **presentations** and launches with the **well-chosen few.**

GREENBELT 3
mycinema

- 50 luxurious Ferco seats
- State-of-the-art Dolby EX sound format
- Tastefully modern cocktail and theater area

For inquiries & reservations, call 752-7862 or 757-3860 to 63

## Establishing New Trends

Many years ago moviegoers have to fall in line to watch their favorite movies. They have to arrive the theater at least 45 minutes before the screening time.

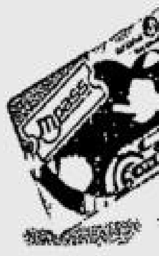
Years later Ayala Cinemas introduced the MPASS Ticketless System - innovation.

The Sureseats Multi-Pass or M-Pass moves you one step closer to a complete online ticketing service by letting you complete an actual purchase of tickets via the Internet.

Reload anytime, purchase whenever, and claim your tickets without having to worry about getting there 45 minutes before showtime!

Sooner or later others will copy these feature, but not the quality and service, and this what we call innovation. What would you call it?

**MPASS TICKETLESS SYSTEM.**



Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲

## All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!

The fun is in the finds

Developed and managed by Ayala Land, Inc

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.
Customer Service Hotline: 886-7515

Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00

① Pelukang Itim
② SpongeBob Squarepants
③ Ong Bak
④ Finding Neverland

Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00

⑤ Sahara
⑥ Samara (Ring 2)
⑦ The Wedding Date

# EVENTS! EVENTS!

**SALE! SALE!**

TIME TO HARVEST THE BEST DEALS

April 15-16 10am-12midnight
April 17 10am-9pm

Special Events:

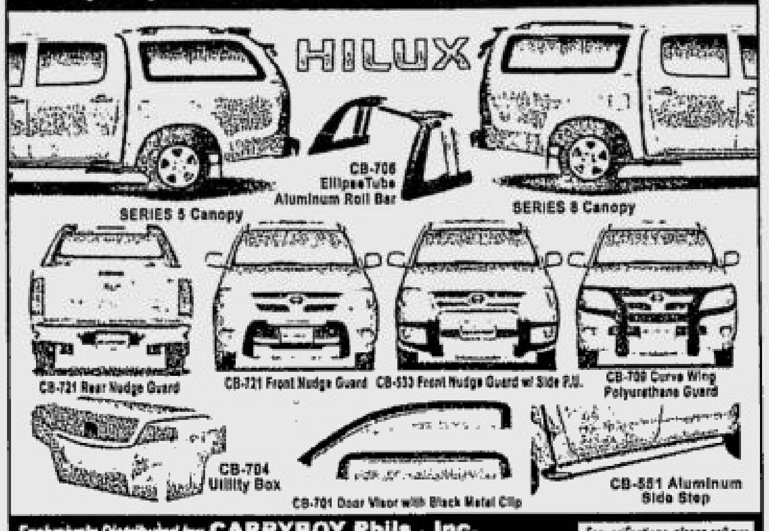
April 15
Star Records presents
Michael Cruz & Johann Escañan
6 pm, Activity Center

April 16
Axe: Choose the Girl, Spend Her Money
11am-6pm, Activity Center

April 17 to 20
GO F.I.S.H. Bazaar
11am-9pm, Activity Center

# SPORTS

**CARRYBOY**


HILUX
SERIES 5 Canopy
CB-706 EllipseTube Aluminum Roll Bar
SERIES 8 Canopy
CB-721 Rear Nudge Guard
CB-721 Front Nudge Guard
CB-533 Front Nudge Guard w/ Side P.U.
CB-709 Curve Wing Polyurethane Guard
CB-704 Utility Box
CB-701 Door Visor with Black Metal Clip
CB-551 Aluminum Side Step

Exclusively Distributed by: CARRYBOY Phils., Inc.
[illegible] Quezon City-Tel.: 740-0530 or 25 FAX: 732-3100
For more info on our products, text CB<space>HELP to 2300 for Globe and Sun subscribers.
www.carryboyphil.com

For verifications, please call our HOTLINE 740-0525

## Lagdamen, Alcala advance to semis

JULIUS Lagdamen and Malvinne Alcala swept into the semifinals of the 10-under boys' and girls' divisions of the JVC Badminton Open Juniors Championships at SM Pampanga over the weekend. A mainstay of San Juan Badminton Center, Lagdamen whitewashed Judd Reyes of Centro Athletico, 15-0, 15-0, to set up a duel with Jan Banquiles, who beat Gio Angsico of RAQ4Cock Badminton, 15-10, 15-9. Al Chan of RSL thwarted Jayvie Cagomoc, 15-12, 15-8, to arrange a showdown with Antonio Villarin of Anvil BC. Villarin whipped Kennedy Espina, 15-8, 15-4. Alcala, standout of Team Kawasaki/Sports Hub, made it to the semis in girls' play with a walkover win over Sarquena. She will face Crismayne Co, who also won by default over Ma. Benita Zuñiga. The other semis match pits Eunice Servando against Alexandra Villarin. Servando held off Michelle Millan, 11-4, 11-2, while Villarin won by default over Janelle de Vera.

# C-League billiards reels off in Batangas

MANILA, Cavite and Parañaque will each have a lady cue artist when they set out in the TM 9-Ball Champions League which blasts off today at the SM Supermall in Batangas City.

Team Manila, led by Manila Sports Council (Masco) chair Arnold "Ali" Atienza, is fielding Ruby Merces, one of the best amateurs in her division, in its opening game against Batangas in this event backed by Touch Mobile, Brunswick, Accel and SM Supermalls.

Batangas City Mayor and team manager Eddie Dimacuha, however, believes his boys have an equal chance against the Big City bets.

"We have chosen an all-Batangueño team to prove that we can win without imports," he said.

Team Cavite of Gov. Irineo "Ayong" Maliksi and Team Parañaque of Vice Mayor Anjo Yllana are also fielding one female player each when they tackle Pasig and Pangasinan, respectively.

It will be Pampanga against Makati in the last pairing of the tournament that will start at 1 p.m.

The TM 9-Ball Show will serve as highlight of the SM Supermall games on IBC 13, on Thursdays and Fridays, from 9:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. IBC 13 telecast will start on April 28.

RocketMan Enterprises, Inc., headed by former Metropolitan Basketball Association (MBA) top honcho Ramon Tuason will produce the show for Jemah Television.

"The presence of Merces and the two other ladies make this tournament very interesting," said Tuason.

## GAB should probe Murad for boxing rip-off

**CLEAN LIVING**

*Manolo R. Iñigo*

GLIB-TONGUED American promoter Murad Muhammad should be investigated by the Games and Amusements Board for committing acts that did little to enhance public interest in Philippine professional boxing such as his subtle double-cross of Filipino boxer Manny Pacquiao and the promotion of a one-sided fight in Taguig last year.

GAB chair Eric Buhain should punish Murad for conduct unbecoming of a GAB licensee. As a promoter Murad had misled the public. He had also failed to protect the interest of a Filipino fighter by not telling Pacquiao the truth about the pay-per-view contract of his recent fight against Mexico's Erik Morales. The wily American promoter reportedly earned close to $3 million from the PPV proceeds while the brave Filipino fighter earned nothing even though he risked his life fighting Morales, who won the classic contest by a 12-round unanimous decision.

My sources also told me that Pacquiao felt really bad about his own people who made money from the local PPV deal without his knowledge. But he had no comment when asked about the role played by his longtime business manager, Rod Nazario.

Going back to Murad.

Last December, Murad co-promoted (with Rod Nazario and M&M Sports) a virtual rip-off of a fight at The Fort in Taguig where the fans were enticed to watch a gross mismatch pitting the awesome and vastly experienced Pacquiao against an obscure boxer from Thailand named Fahsan 3K Battery. As expected, Pacquiao hardly worked up a sweat in stopping Fahsan in just four rounds, a quick ending that did not come as a surprise to some level-headed writers.

Wrote Tito Talao of Tempo: "Not only was his Thai opponent overmatched for Pacquiao in every department, the guy (Fahsan) was nowhere near the class of the Mexican warriors sent to the canvas by the Filipino fighter's hammer fists. Four rounds to put away the poor fellow, if you ask me, is too long."

Said my PDI colleague, Al S. Mendoza: "Against a patsy like Fahsan, Pacquiao could have still won by KO even with one hand tied to his waist."

The way the one-sided fight ended only proved that I was right in branding the bout a gross mismatch. Recall too that I have alerted the people around Pacquiao about the pitfalls of dealing with Murad. However, they did not care to listen and fell for Murad hook, line and sinker. But now that Murad's dark side has been exposed, there's no need for me to say, "I told you so."

The GAB should not treat Murad lightly. And all true-blooded Filipinos should rally behind Pacquiao and censure Murad because he has betrayed the trust reposed upon him as a promoter in this country. The GAB should not grant Murad another permit to promote here because he has brought embarrassment to Philippine pro boxing. It will not do us any good to continue with what's patently a rip-off in sports and let it fester. The issue here is no longer legal, but moral.

As for me, I will live and act as a watchdog for pro boxing until the day I die.

**NOW THAT'S MORE LIKE IT**

What is Cosmetic Transdermal Reconstruction? (CTR™)

Ask us how we can provide you with CTR™ the original and most requested hair restoration process.

**Special thanks to all our loyal customers for 8 great years.**

**Your friendly staff at Image Associates, Inc.**

8th YEAR ANNIVERSARY

FREE CONSULTATION BROCHURE
CALL NOW:
845-0879
924-1894

A cosmetically significant increase in Hair Density Guaranteed!

Makati Office: Suite 714 Herrera Tower, 98 Herrera Cor. Valero Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City Tel. Nos.: 845-0879 / 845-1663 Fax: 845-1711
Quezon City Office: Suites 401-402 Columbian Bldg., 160 West Ave., Q.C. Tel.: 924-1894 / 924-1895 Fax: 924-1896
Cebu offices: Tel.: (032) 256-0347 Tel/Fax: (032) 256-0320

IMAGE ASSOCIATES
www.imageenhancementgroup.com

GREAT DEALS OF QUALITY

**AUTOWIDE**

TRUCKS, PASSENGER VANS & SUV's

**BIG PRICE CUT**

Isuzu 10T Dump

April 16 to 24, 2005
Sale Starts 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

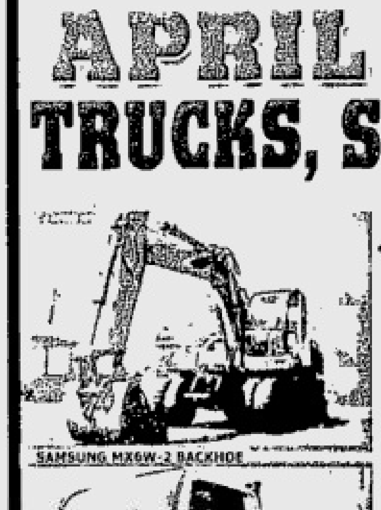
Isuzu 10T Cargo
Isuzu Elf Alum Van
Isuzu Elf Cargo (Giga)

SITE: Lot 63B Innovative St., Subic Bay Industrial Park, Phase I, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines 2222
Tel. No.: (047) 252-1221 Fax No.: (047) 252-1223
MANILA OFFICE: 51 Amang Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Santolan, Pasig City, Philippines
Tel. No.: (02) 646-7739 Fax No.: (02) 668-1378
www.myautowide.com info@myautowide.com

YOUR only SOURCE OF EXPORT QUALITY UNITS IN SUBIC!

**SBMC** BIG SUMMER SALE!
SUBIC BAY MOTORS CORPORATION

**APRIL 16-30, 2005**
**TRUCKS, SUVs & PASS. VANS**


SAMSUNG MX6W-2 BACKHOE

ISUZU ELF CARGO (GIGA TYPE)

MITSUBISHI SPACE GEAR

✓ EXPORT QUALITY ITEMS
SOME UNITS WITH:
- LEATHER SEATS
- COMPLETE DETAILING
- ORIGINAL AIRCON w/ WARRANTY!
- BRAND NEW DASHBOARD
- BRAND NEW RACK & PINION
- BRAND NEW GEAR BOX

SUBIC BAY MOTORS CORPORATION EXPORT QUALITY

✓ COMPLETE DOCUMENTS
✓ PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
✓ SOME UNITS READY TO GO
(AFTER FULL PAYMENT)

we are online www.SBMCAUCTIONS.com info@sbmcauctions.com

Get this Locally-Acquired Vehicles!

MITSUBISHI PAJERO GDI SPORTRONIC 3500 cc

ISUZU BIGHORN 4X4 engine 3000 cc

BLDG. 1457 ARGONAUT HIGHWAY, SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE 2222
MAIN OFFICE: (047) 252-1260 · SALES OFFICE: (047) 252-1320 / 1330 · FAX: (047) 252-1259
Financing Available thru ORIX METRO Leasing & Finance Corp. Tel No. (02) 858-8888

dimitri productions
and The Local Government of Quezon City
in association with
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Earthday Network Philippines
present

EARTH DAY JAM
2005

A Street Party Music Tribute To Mother Earth

featuring (in alphabetical order)

AKAFELLAS BROWNMAN REVIVAL CHIN CHIN GUTIERREZ
GRACE NONO HAIRY DAWGS KC MONTERO
KITCHIE NADAL LOU BONNEVIE MAKILING ENSEMBLE
PAROKYA NI EDGAR PIDO with TAKE 1 PINIKPIKAN
RJ and FRIENDS SPONGE COLA SUGAR FREE
TRUE FAITH 7 SHOTS feat. PIKASO, SVC, DASH, PHAT BONE, MIKE SWIFT
and many more

with the special participation of Ms. EARTH PHILIPPINES Reigning Queens & The Young Visual Artists Group

APRIL 22 7:30 pm
TOMAS MORATO AVENUE STRIP, QUEZON CITY
FREE ADMISSION

CEMEX PHILIPPINES · Solid Waste Contractors of Quezon City · SuperFerry · PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER · 105.1 · 923·JOEY · MTV

for more information call 8907145 or visit http://www.dimitriproductions.com

"PANAGHOY sa Suba"

"AISHITE Imasu 1941"

"MILAN"

# 23rd FAP Awards set

By Marinel R. Cruz

FILM Academy of the Philippines director general Leo Martinez is confident that this year's FAP awards ceremony will not be marred by controversy, because the group is "very transparent."

> Academy vows this year's peer selections will be beyond reproach

The 23rd FAP awards ceremony, set on May 14, comes on the heels of the controversial 21st Star Awards for Movies, hosted by the Philippine Movie Press Club in March.

"We made sure that no film producer or officer of the academy participated in any phase of the selection process," Martinez told INQUIRER Entertainment in a phone interview on Saturday. "We don't want them to influence other members."

Thirteen members of the PMPC reportedly received money to give the Best Actor trophy to Piolo Pascual for his movie "Milan." The PMPC has formed a committee to investigate the irregularity.

"The FAP process of selecting nominees and, eventually, the winners, is very different," Martinez stressed. "*Malinis ito* (This is clean). These are peer awards, meaning artists get to pick from among their colleagues. Editors cite fellow editors, writers cite fellow writers ..."

Apart from the citers, Martinez pointed out, another group works as nominators. Their task is to pick the five nominees for each category. "They [citers and nominators] have been working since the beginning of the year. They are serious—and very careful—about what they do," The FAP chief said.

Martinez clarified that the recipient of the Best Picture Award should be nominated in at least three categories and win for either Best Director or Best Screenplay. There are 14 films competing this year, he added. Final screening will be from May 2 to 10 at the UP Film Center in Quezon City. The screenings are open to the public.

Final voting is on May 11, and the awards show is on May 14 at the Westin Philippine Plaza in Pasay City.

This year's nominees were formally announced last April 14 during a press conference. Maricel Soriano, FAP Best Actress last year, read the list.

### Best Director

Joel Lamangan for "Aishite Imasu 1941"; Olivia Lamasan, "Milan"; Cesar Montano, "Panaghoy sa Suba"; Eric Matti, "Pa-Siyam"; and Laurice Guillen, "Santa Santita."

### Best Screenplay

Roy Iglesias, "Mano Po 3: My Love"; Irma Dimaranan, "Naglalayag"; Cris Vertido, "Panaghoy sa Suba"; Ricardo Lee, "Sabel"; and J. Gracio/M. Yamamoto/J. Delgado, "Santa Santita."

### Best Actor

Dennis Trillo, "Aishite Imasu 1941"; Christopher de Leon, "Mano Po 3: My Love"; Piolo Pascual, "Milan"; Yul Servo, "Naglalayag"; and Jericho Rosales, "Santa Santita."

### Best Actress

Maricel Soriano, ."I Will Survive"; Vilma Santos, "Mano Po 3: My Love"; Claudine Barretto, "Milan"; Nora Aunor, "Naglalayag"; and Judy Ann Santos, "Sabel."

### Best Supporting Actor

Jay Manalo, "Aishite Imasu 1941"; Eddie Garcia, "Mano Po 3: My Love"; Ryan Eigenmann, "Milan"; Ronnie Lazaro, "Panaghoy sa Suba"; and Johnny Delgado, "Santa Santita."

### Best Supporting Actress

Amy Austria, "Beautiful Life"; Gloria Romero, "Beautiful Life"; Jacklyn Jose, "Naglalayag"; Daria Ramirez, "Panaghoy sa Suba"; and Hilda Koronel, "Santa Santita."

### Best Cinematographer

Shayne Clemente, "Milan"; Ely Cruz, "Panaghoy sa Suba"; Lee Meily, "Santa Santita"; and Yam Laranas, "Sigaw."

### Best Editing

Mayra Ignacio, "Aishite Imasu 1941"; Vito Cajili, "Feng Shui"; Mayra Ignacia, "Milan"; Manet Dayrit, "Sigaw"; and Vito Cajili, "Spirit of the Glass."

### Best Production Design

Joey Luna, "Aishite Imasu 1941"; Raymond Bajaras, "Feng Shui"; Nuel Naval, "Milan"; and Edgar Martin Littaua, "Santa Santita."

### Best Sound

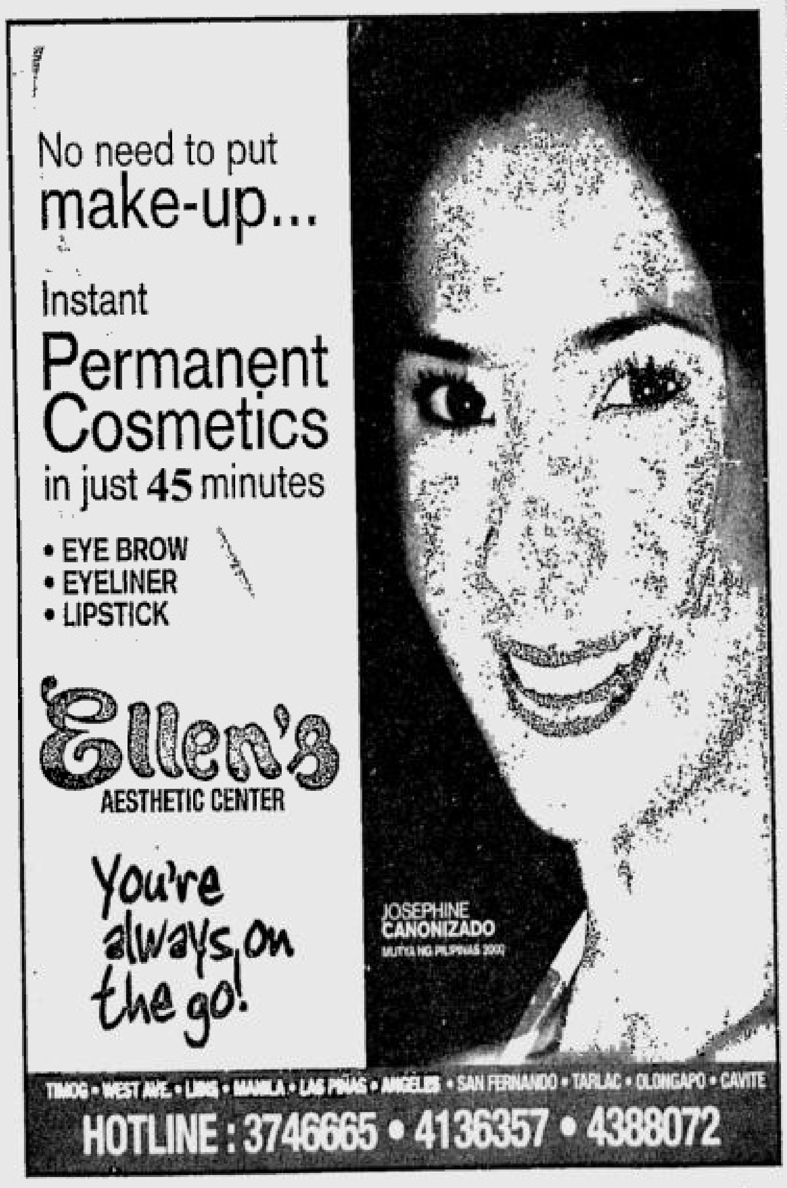
Ramon Reyes, "Aishite Imasu 1941"; Albert Idioma, "Feng Shui"; Ramon Reyes/Angie Reyes, "Kulimlim"; Nestor Mutia/ Angie Reyes, "Naglalayag"; Angie Reyes/Nestor Mutia, "Panaghoy sa Suba."

### Best Music

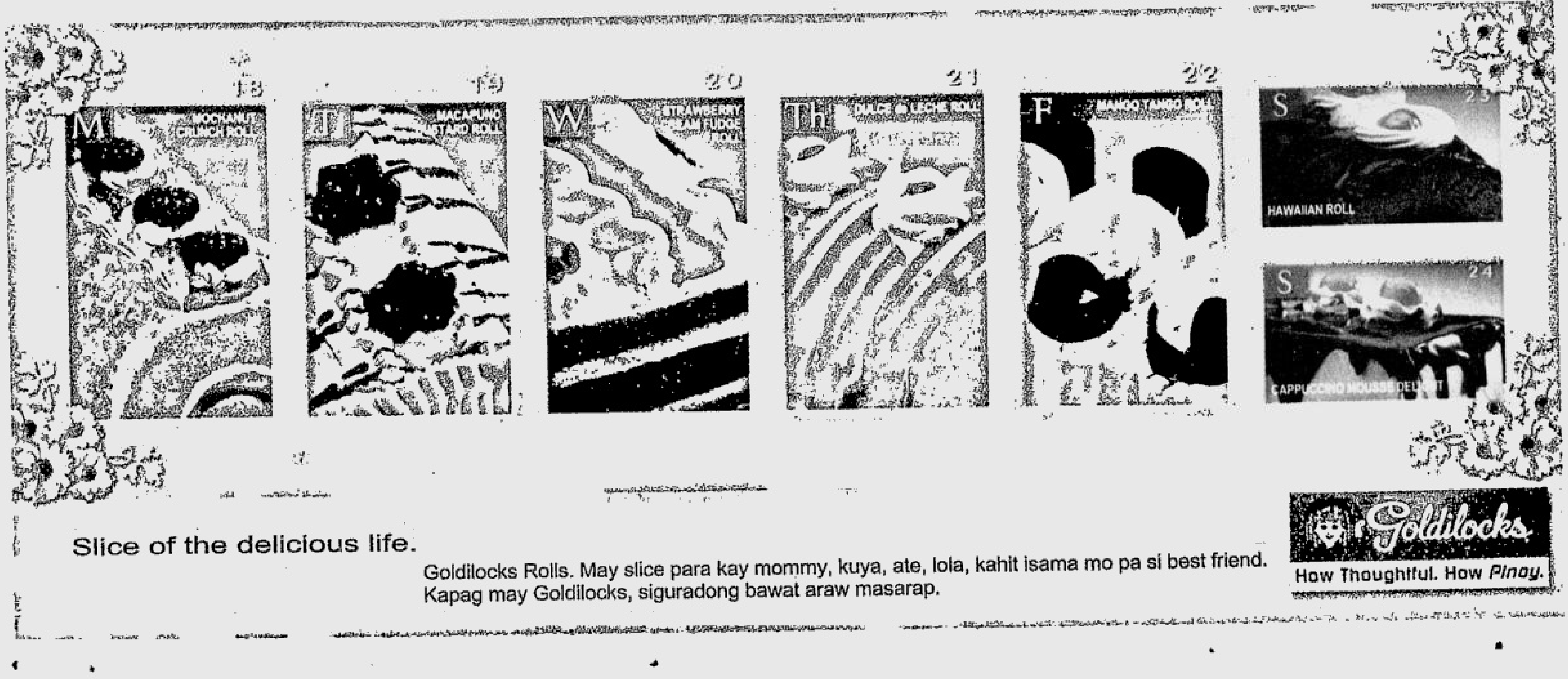
Von de Guzman, "Aishite Imasu 1941"; Carmina Cuay, "Feng Shui"; Lutgardo Labad, "Naglalayag"; Nonong Buencamino, "Panaghoy sa Suba"; and Vincent de Jesus, "Santa Santita."

*(E-mail the author at mcruz@inquirer.com.ph)*

ADVANCE
Laser Treatment
Stimulates the skin increasing collagen and elastin production, that will help your skin combat ageing, strengthening tissues thus eliminating wrinkles, fine lines and laugh lines.
*Worrying about* WRINKLES *and other* SIGNS *of* AGEING?
LET'S FACE IT
THE ONE STOP FACIAL SALON
NOW OPEN! CITY MALL, OLONGAPO & ROBINSONS PIONEER, MANDALUYONG TEL.: 687-6342
SOON TO OPEN: CORBY 1 BLDG., LIBIS.


No need to put make-up...
Instant Permanent Cosmetics in just 45 minutes
- EYE BROW
- EYELINER
- LIPSTICK
Ellen's
AESTHETIC CENTER
You're always on the go!
JOSEPHINE CANONIZADO
TIMOG • WEST AVE. • LIBIS • MANILA • LAS PIÑAS • ANGELES • SAN FERNANDO • TARLAC • OLONGAPO • CAVITE
HOTLINE : 3746665 • 4136357 • 4388072

SPECIAL for DAD, MOM and CHILD
A FIT FAMILY THIS SUMMER
for P16,500 only
COMPLETE WITH PERSONAL TRAINER
We have the most number of group exercise classes:
BELLY DANCING, KARAOKE SPIN, PUNCH & PUMP JAZZ TEASE, STREETDANCE, HIP-HOP, BOOT CAMP SPINNING, BENCH, YOGA, TAI-CHI, CORE BALANCE, PILATES, MATWORK, HILO, CARDIO KICKBOXING plus more!
GOLD'S GYM.
www.goldsgym.com.ph
GLORIETTA 3 752-8081
GALLERIA 6340908
XPRESS 848-5444
SURIYA SPA 893-1818
soon to open: ALABANG 634-5870
40 YEARS • 650 LOCATIONS • 3 MILLION MEMBERS • 1 GREAT NAME


Slice of the delicious life.
Goldilocks Rolls. May slice para kay mommy, kuya, ate, lola, kahit isama mo pa si best friend.
Kapag may Goldilocks, siguradong bawat araw masarap.
Goldilocks
How Thoughtful. How Pinoy.

# Karel Marquez

## A compelling voice

**By Larry Leviste**
*Contributor*

KAREL Marquez, most requested VJ on Myx Music Channel, and effervescent mainstay of ABS-CBN's "ASAP" and "MTB," is playing the plum role of Belle in the forthcoming local production of Disney's acclaimed musical, "Beauty and the Beast." She alternates with KC Concepcion.

The play, which is being staged at the Meralco Theater, opens on June 16.

Karel's snappy repartees, dished out in her girlish, yet compelling, voice keeps fans glued to her programs. Unlike most VJs—returning beauties who don't speak Filipino—Karel is proficient in both English and the native tongue.

She hardly ever speaks in Taglish. "I tape once a week and I have a blast. I don't take myself seriously but I'm serious about the job," says Karel, who turned 18 only last December.

Karel's mom Pinky had her daughter join Trumpets, a theater group, at the tender age of 8. "My first-ever role was Tiny Tim in "A Christmas Carol 'cuz I had short hair," Karel recalls. "I was born to sing. When she was pregnant with me, my mom says, she was singing until her ninth month. I was born to sing. I adore Broadway, but I also love OPM and Pinoy Rap."

Also at age 8, Karel started her career as a product endorser, gulping down a soft drink. Then she was a Jollibee girl, Close-Up girl, and New Face of Pond's.

Meanwhile, Johnny Manahan also cast her as the *maldita* Penelope in Berks. "It was hard because I'm such a tweetums," said Karel.

She is currently on leave from her marketing studies at Thames College in Eastwood.

Karel has ventured into recording, too. She participated in "Single," a compilation album under Star Records featuring four artists each doing four tracks in different genres. Karel interpreted alternative pop numbers, among them the carrier track, "Pangarap."

TEXT, STYLING AND DIRECTION BY LARRY LEVISTE
PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA
WARDROBE BY BOBSON LADIES, COORDINATED BY MARY ROSE CAES
HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY BERN C. DUENAS

# Diet, Tintin &

## They get along just fine, beli

**By Nini Valera**

DIETHER Ocampo talks to fellow Hunk Jericho Rosales about his girlfriend Kristine Hermosa, who is Jericho's ex.

Jericho, or Echo, confided this to INQUIRER Entertainment on Monday. He also claimed that his friendship with Diet had not been affected now that Tintin is Diet's girl.

"During Hunks tours, Diether and I often share a room," said Jericho.

"We talk about Kristine sometimes, but he doesn't seek my advice about her, like he asks about other things."

Echo said that he and Kristine would sometimes bump into each other.

"We say 'hi'; okay *naman*," was how he described his current relationship with Kristine. (She is reported to have married Diether in civil rites in Jaen, Nueva Ecija last year, but they have yet to confirm this.)

What Diet told INQUIRER Entertainment also on Monday was that he loved Kristine "very much," debunking rumors that they have split up.

"Sometimes, people have the tendency to get ahead of you, even when it concerns your personal life," Diet lamented. "But one thing's for sure, I love her so much. Whatever is happening to us now, happens to any couple. We're still together."

He said Kristine had accepted everything about him from the start, including the fact that he has a year-old son, Dream, with another woman.

"For as long as you guys are happy for us, I'm okay," said Diet.

Even so, he pleaded his case for privacy: "I'd like to keep my family and personal life private as much as possible. These are the only things that I value. We prefer to live … as normal a life as possible, even if it can't be [perfectly] normal because we are celebrities."

But Diet talked about Dream and how fatherhood had changed him.

"[Being a father] has given me the right direction," he said. "It has given me so much peace … so much inspiration, it's like a new beginning. I look at my past … and whatever I learned, I apply when I move forward. I discard that which won't help me."

He feels for fellow Hunk Piolo Pascual, currently the subject of controversy, after a video supposedly showing him having sex with another man was shown on national television.

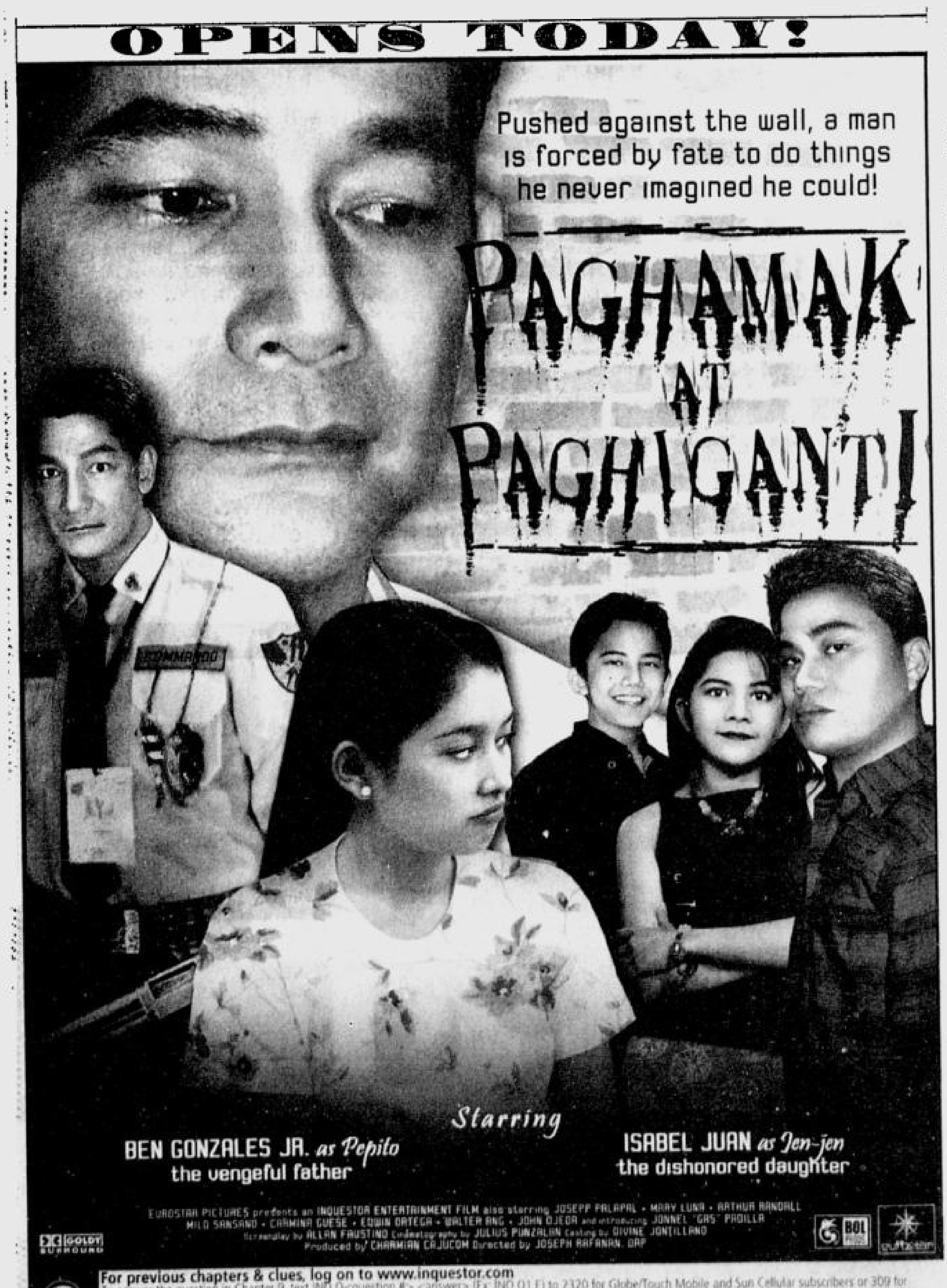
"Sometimes [it's] already below the belt," said Diet. "We're just actors and we can't retaliate through writing. I wish writers [would realize] that the industry is small. Let's just try to help and support each other."

He himself had nothing in his past to be ashamed of, he said—no skeletons in the closet, no woman who might come out and accuse him of fathering another child.

"I can walk with my head held high," said Diet. Most things that have happened to my life are public

**KRISTINE** Hermosa accepted everything about Die

**DIETHER** Ocampo loves Kristine "very much."



OPENS TODAY!

Pushed against the wall, a man is forced by fate to do things he never imagined he could!
PAGHAMAK AT PAGHIGANTI
Starring
BEN GONZALES JR. as Pepito
the vengeful father
ISABEL JUAN as Jen-jen
the dishonored daughter

EUROSTAR PICTURES presents an INQUESTOR ENTERTAINMENT FILM also starring JOSEPP PALAPAL • MARY LUNA • ARTHUR RANDALL
MILO SANSANO • CARMINA GUESE • EDWIN ORTEGA • WALTER ANG • JOHN OJEDA and introducing JONNEL "GAS" PADILLA
Screenplay by ALLAN FAUSTINO Cinematography by JULIUS PUNZALAN Casting by DIVINE JONTILLANO
Produced by CHARMIAN CAJUCOM Directed by JOSEPH RAFANAN, DRP

For previous chapters & clues, log on to www.inquestor.com
To answer the question in Chapter 9, text INQ Q<question #> <answer> (Ex: INQ Q1 E) to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text subscribers. Maximum of 3 text answers per question. Send in your answers by April 16 to qualify for the preliminary draw on April 18.
TO JOIN, REGISTER NOW FOR FREE! Text INQ Reg <full name>*<complete address>*<age>*<gender> (Ex: INQ Reg Juan dela Cruz*1234 Ortigas Ave Pasig*34*M)
Send to 2320 for Globe/Touch Mobile and Sun Cellular subscribers or 309 for Smart/Addict/Talk 'N Text subscribers.

# Conquest by sad son

**By Pocholo Concepcion**
*Contributor*

REVIEW

A SUDDEN downpour in the middle of scorching April augured well for a gig that unexpectedly drew a huge crowd.

And it took music industry veteran Danny Samonte, a.k.a. deejay Steve O' Neal of DZRJ FM, to demonstrate that good old retro music could still cause juvenile excitement.

Obviously, not even the rush-hour traffic dampened the spirit of some 15,000 people who filled the Araneta Coliseum (estimate by building administrators) to watch the '60s pop group Cascades reunite in concert for the first time in about 30 years.

An oldies gig runs the risk of disastrous results—because former fans may have lost interest, or are too busy to listen to yesteryears' hits that they hear on radio every Sunday anyway.

### Irresistible

But the Cascades proved irresistible to Filipinos, especially the baby boomers who, presumably, rarely venture out of their homes these days. Inside the Big Dome, these fans momentarily lost grandparent composure as they recalled lyrics and memories with their spouses, nodding in recognition over songs that were part of their lives.

Stand-up comic Willie Nepomuceno had the audience rollicking over his "reminiscing" front act. Digging into his old bag of mimic tricks that has conspicuously seen better days, Nepomuceno nevertheless elicited applause for the images and sounds he recreated of radio, television and teenage passions of bygone eras.

The guy might have induced arthritic knees springing back into action, as the crowd roared through his musical impressions of Roy Orbison, Paul Anka, Gerry and the Pacemakers… even Yoyoy Villame.

By then everyone had warmed up and seemed footloose and fancy free.

When the Cascades climbed onstage, they were accompanied by a set of Pinoy musicians who served as backup band, including violinist John Lesaca.

Indeed, the Cascades looked, uh, geriatric. But in their country-western designed shirts and boots, Claude Gummoe (vocals), Tony Grasso (vocals, keyboards), Gabe Lapano (vocals, bass) and Chuck Crews (vocals, guitar and musical direction) also came off as cool cowboys of the Nashville music circuit.

In 1960, the Ohio-born Gummoe was instrumental in forming the Cascades out of an o group called the Silver Strands, which regul played in a US navy ship that used to dock in ifornia and Japan. It was also Gummoe wrote most of the hits associated with the cades.

On Friday, a shaky start had Crews wor over the sound his guitar was making, w soon turned into a full-blown technical gl Gummoe was apologetic, but whatever co sion this might have created was brushed a the minute they brought out stools and pla acoustic guitars.

The set list included new songs tained in a new CD that was being sol the gates. These songs were performe between the hits, and were like warmly applauded for their easyg nature.

But each time a (very) familiar intro line heard, it seemed the entire Coliseum was br to sing along.

Which led us to think: What makes a Casc song so lovable?

Didn't take long for us to realize, as we veled at the sea of heads and hands swaying waving in unison, that a typical Cascade tu sad and laden with bittersweet emotion.

Examples: "There's a Reason" (the first s the goup Cascades recorded, according to G moe) has lyrics that go: "But I don't know w should cry/Just because you said goodbye… "Shy Girl," the speaker is addressing someon "wished" he could have as his girl, and then in the end: "Don't go away, shy girl…" The ki phrase that everyone remembers from "I Wa Be Your Lover" is: "I don't wanna be friend…" Even "Rhythm of the Rain" is abo guy who tells us "what a fool" he's been and the only girl he loves "has gone away."

### Lost youth

As sad songs go, the average Pinoy music would probably not appreciate the raw feel one encounters in the blues (although there substantial followers of soul and R&B), as as he or she is able to relate almost insta neously with the vocal sweetness and produc sheen of classic Top 40-type ditties. Yes, suc those waxed by the Cascades.

And as for the adoring multitude at the Colis in Cubao, they listened, heard, felt and enjoyed songs that reminded them of the awkward sta their lost youth, when it was fine to be foolish, love was all they worried about.

Never mind if they also ended up laughin themselves for acting like *their* children that migh

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

## AINMENT

# x Echo

## eve it or not

JERICHO Rosales still friends with Diether

knowledge."

But he said he wouldn't be surprised if a new issue, real or not, were sprung on him.

"There are all these ridiculous stories. It's how the news [is] treated. If [writers] want to harm people, that's their [lookout]. My job is to act, to make movies, not to destroy people. I'd rather show sympathy and help others and support those who are in need."

Diet recently wrapped up work on Director Cholo Laurel's "Nasaan Ka Man," where he plays the twisted character of Ito. It's the darkest role he has played so far, more sinister than his Dado in the breakthrough crime drama "La Vida Rosa," directed by Chito Rono.

"Ito suppresses his emotions," Diet said. "He's pushed to the limit and does something dreadful. When I did Dado, I was still a novice. Compared to Ito, that was nothing. I feel I wasted that role; I could have done better. If I had my way, I'd redo Dado and the whole movie again."

But there are no second takes for Diet—only the drive to do better.

He explained: "What we're trying to do is educate viewers. The audience goes for romantic comedies. I'm not saying that's bad, but it's also good that once in a while, we give them a worthwhile movie like this one."

# gs

## The Cascades, big hitmakers in the '60s, coax 15,000 baby boomers out on a rainy evening

der
rly
Cal-
vho
Cas-

ied
ich
ch.
nfu-
ide
yed

on-
d at
d in
vise
ing

was
ced

ade

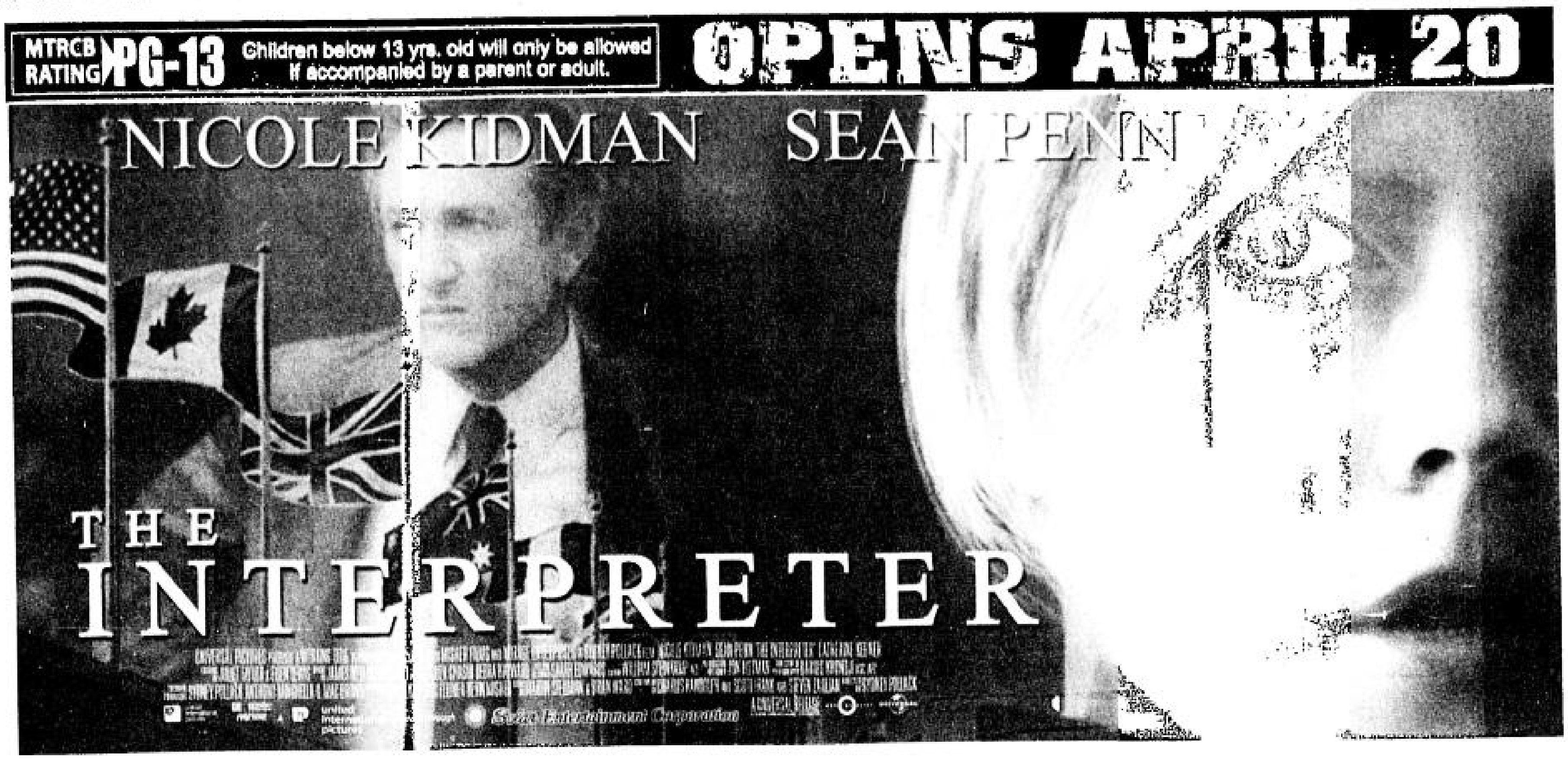
har-
and
e is

ong
im-
ny I
" In
he
egs
ker
nna
our
it a
hat

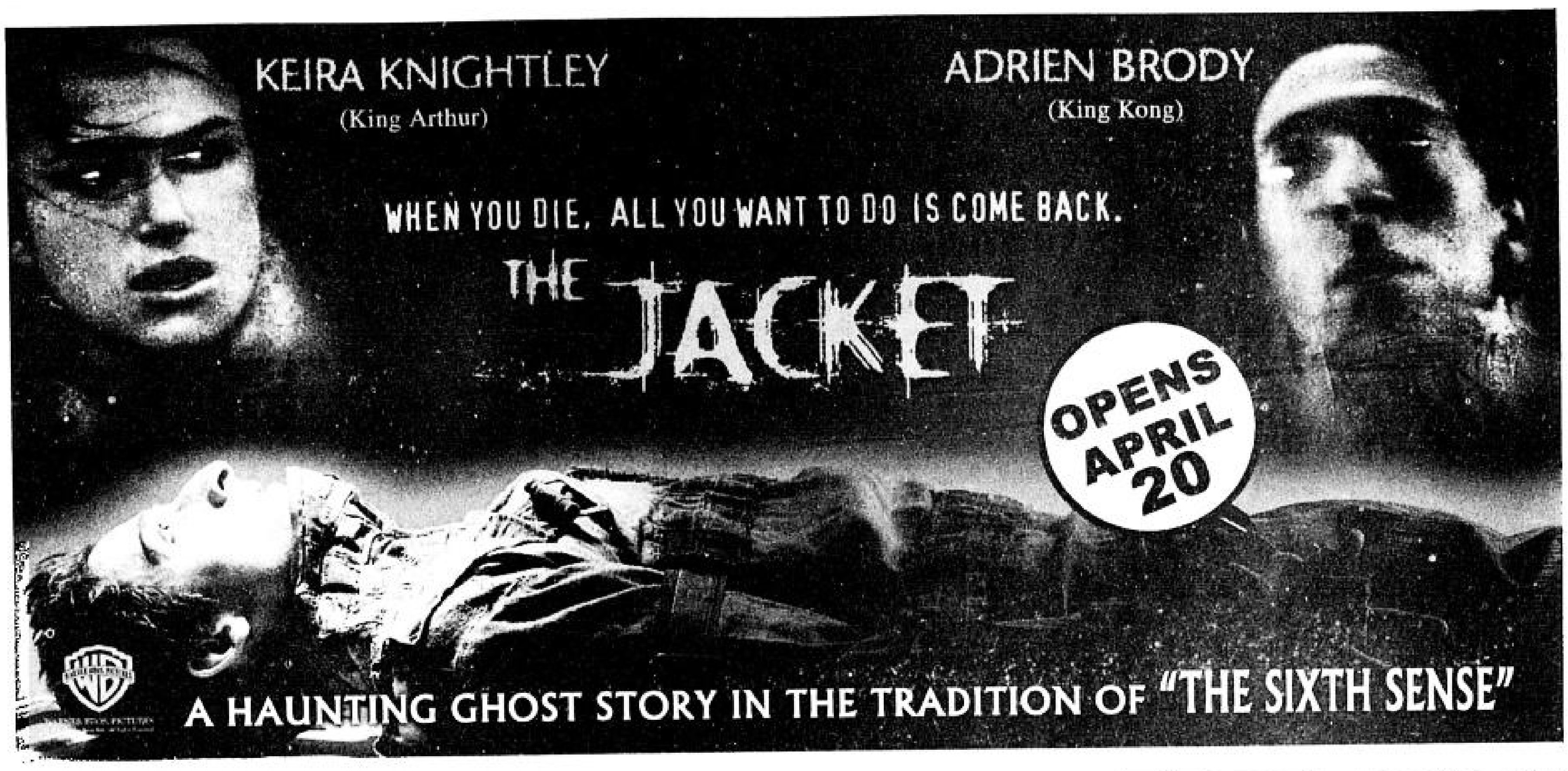
fan
ngs
are
uch
ita-
ion
as

um
the
s of
nd

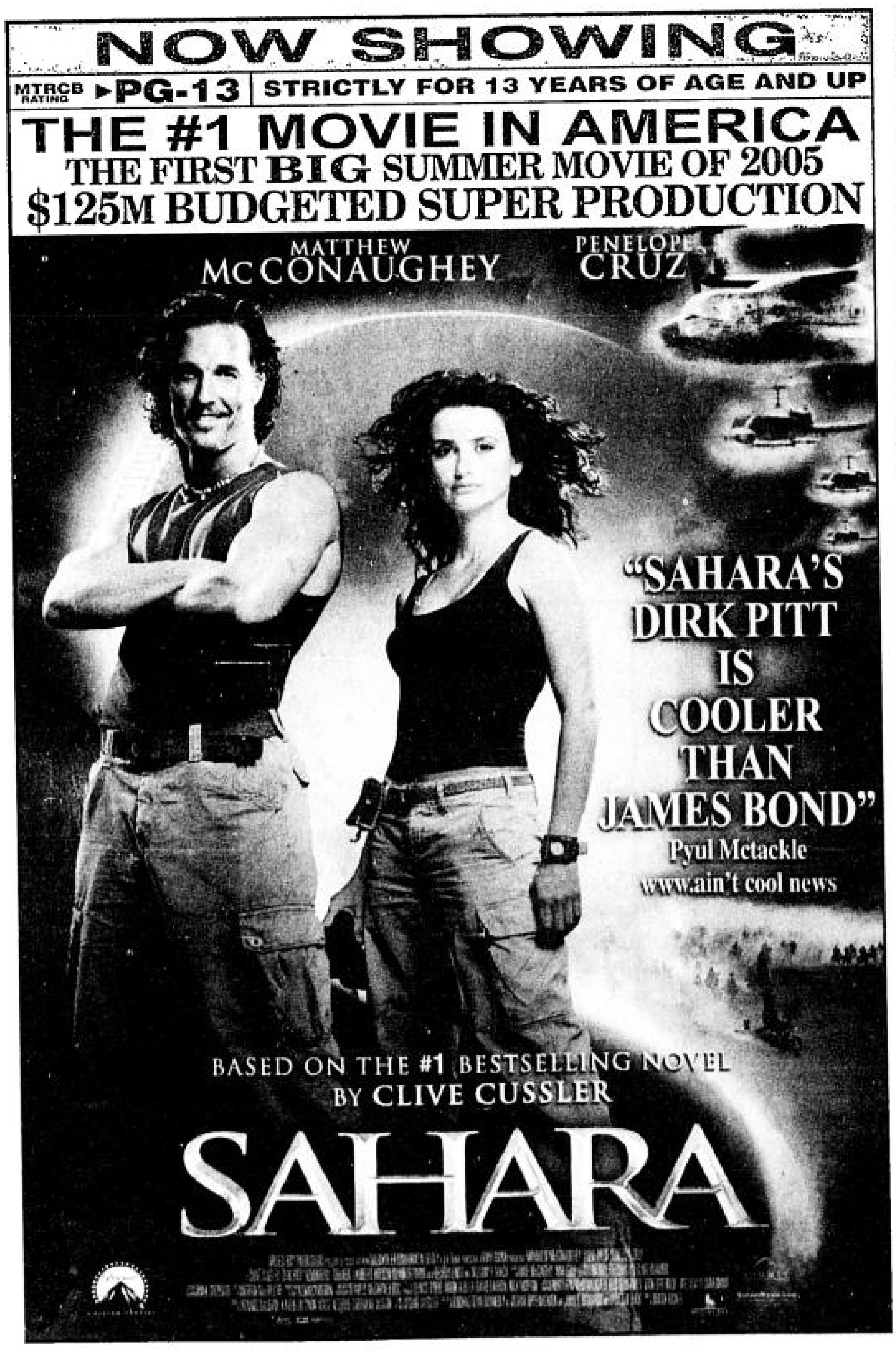
at



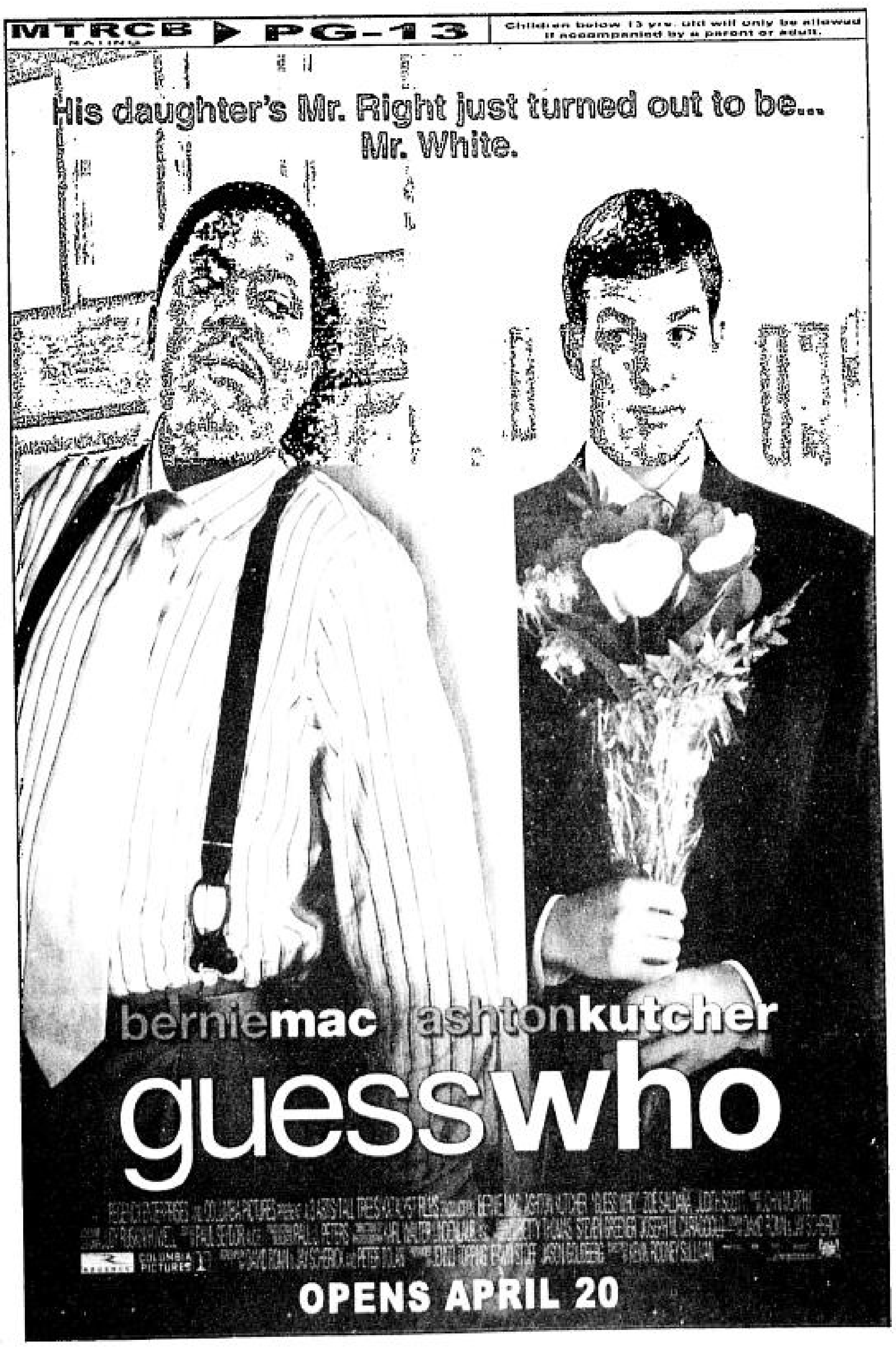
MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
OPENS APRIL 20
NICOLE KIDMAN SEAN PENN
THE INTERPRETER
Solar Entertainment Corporation



KEIRA KNIGHTLEY (King Arthur)
ADRIEN BRODY (King Kong)
WHEN YOU DIE, ALL YOU WANT TO DO IS COME BACK.
THE JACKET
OPENS APRIL 20
A HAUNTING GHOST STORY IN THE TRADITION OF "THE SIXTH SENSE"



NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▸PG-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
THE #1 MOVIE IN AMERICA
THE FIRST BIG SUMMER MOVIE OF 2005
$125M BUDGETED SUPER PRODUCTION
MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY PENELOPE CRUZ
"SAHARA'S DIRK PITT IS COOLER THAN JAMES BOND"
Pyul Mctackle
www.ain't cool news
BASED ON THE #1 BESTSELLING NOVEL BY CLIVE CUSSLER
SAHARA



MTRCB RATING ▸ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
His daughter's Mr. Right just turned out to be... Mr. White.
berniemac ashtonkutcher
guesswho
OPENS APRIL 20

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
starmall EDSA-SHAW
Tel. No. 726.61.50
3 Gamitan
4 Sahara
5 Ong Bak
METROPOLIS ALABANG star
Tel. No. 850.42.85
1 Ong Bak
2 Kapitbahay
3 Under Renovation
4 Under Renovation
5 Sahara
6 Hide and Seek
starmall LAS PIÑAS
Tel. No. 873.50.04
1 Legendary Street Fighter
2 Rental Reservation

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
NOW SHOWING
samara ring 2
FEAR COMES FULL CIRCLE
Solar Entertainment Corporation

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

GRANITES MARBLES CERAMIC TILES VINYL PAVER MOSAIC TILES DIAMOND PADS TILE TRIM

MC HOME DEPOT
ORTIGAS • FORT BONIFACIO • MAKATI

Get the floor price for all your flooring needs and step down to the good side

WALL & FLOOR FINISHINGS SALE
LOW, LOW PRICES!
April 20-22, 2005

get a chance to WIN one of the 150 DVD Players!
RAINBOW AUDIO VIDEO

SHOWCASE CARPET
CORPOCHARM
APO VINYL TILES
ABC TILE GROUT TILE ADHESIVE
MARCOBELLI
KENT VINYL TILES
MARIWASA CERAMIC WALL TILES

See poster mechanics for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit #1843 Series of 2005
Modern Concepts. More Choices. Most Complete.

ABOUT TIME SODAS WENT FRUIT.
ZESTO
Made with real fruit juice
fruitSoda
ZESTO
dalandan SODA
Made With Real Fruit Juice Caffeine Free
ZESTO
Calamansi SODA

# Fantasy-action flourishes enliven 'Darna' episode

AFTER a so-so start last week, GMA 7's "Darna" made a better impression on us when we viewed it last Monday. The reason was simple: the *fantaserye* finally opted to focus on fantasy-action, rather than predictable melodrama.

VIEWFINDER

*Nestor U. Torre*

In the episode we caught, the grown-up Narda/Darna character played by **Angel Locsin** made her appearance in a particularly strong way, contending with a number of colorful villains:

**Alessandra da Rossi** portrayed Valentina, a former childhood friend of Narda's who has become a minion of the evil character played by **Celia Rodriguez.**

**Eddie Garcia** has become an "insect monster" who is surrounded by bees and other pesky flying creatures, and sends people to their death in a cloud of swarming, snarling insects.

In addition, there were any number of would-be kidnappers and other malefactors whose nasty schemes Darna had to foil.

To provide Narda/Darna a conflict of greater "philosophical" weight she was given a moment when she lost heart and no longer wanted to devote herself to helping others.

This was staged in a rather perfunctory manner, but we appreciated it nevertheless, because it gave the super-heroine a different level of involvement that went beyond the usual fisticuffs and flying scenes, and that variation was all to the good.

We liked the more action-oriented episode better than the first melodrama-loaded telecast we watched, and hope that the show will pursue this task in future episodes. It's less obvious and mushy, and makes better use of the television medium's visual strengths.

Of course, this will require the show's writers to think up increasingly more inventive action-scenes as well as more colorful villains and other characters. This is not as easy as it initially seems, so fresh batches of writers may periodically have to be infused into the series' production team, to keep the show's creative ante up.

## Feedback

FROM **Nora Fabricante** of Vancouver, Canada: "Your column on **Nora Aunor** was the best article I ever read *na dapat malaman ng lahat. Maraming salamat*, you've made Noranians happy by boosting our morale at this difficult time."

## Solo concert

RACHELLE **Ann Go** will mark her first anniversary in entertainment with a major solo concert at the Aliw Theater in April 29, with **Ogie Alcasid, Mark Bautista, Christian Bautista** and **Jay-R** as her special guests. After the show, she will fly to the States for another concert tour.

## Oscar winners on Star Movies

STAR Movies has acquired pay-TV rights to Oscar winner "Million dollar Baby." Other Oscar awardees to be telecast on the movie channel include "the Aviator," "Sideways" and "Finding Neverland."

**ANGEL Locsin: Strong presence**

Awards won by "Million Dollar Baby" are for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actress and Best Supporting Actor. "The Aviator" got trophies for Best Supporting Actress and Best Art Direction. "Sideways" was cited for Best Adopted Screenplay. And "Finding Neverland" clinched a statuette for Best Original Score.

## Movie on TV

VIEWING treats on HBO: April 24 at 6 a.m., "Mack the Knife." This movie adaptation of **Bertolt Brecht's** play, turned into a musical by **Kurt Weill**, is set in London during the time of **Queen Victoria's** coronation. London's underbelly is populated by beggars led by Mr. Peachum (**Richard Norris**), and criminals ruled by MacHeath (**Raul Julia**), also known as Mack the Knife. Mack lusts after Peachum's young daughter Polly, and this leads to "war" breaking out on the poverty-stricken streets of London.

11:10 a.m., "Charlotte Gray." **Cate Blanchett** plays the title character, a Scottish woman who goes to France during the war to look for the man she loves, who's been reported missing in action. She volunteers to work with French resistance forces, disguised as a woman from Paris. later, however, she finds herself attracted to Julien (**Billy Crudup**), a communist working with the resistance. But, what about her missing lover?

## Stereophonics

BRITAIN'S best-selling band, Stereophonics, has released its new album, "Language, Sex, violence. Other," and it topped the UK charts on its first week of release. The album is also clicking in Europe, the US and Asia.

The first single from the album, "Dakota," has a happy-sad hook. "Doorman" is an energetic, sarcastic romp. And "Superman" is a classic modern rocker. Critics' take on the album as a whole: "All killers, no fillers!"

The album also introduces the band's newest member, drummer **Javier Wyler**, to music fans.

Beauty. Fitness. Business

Take your Business to the Next Level.
Discover the Wealth in Beauty.

BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW!

BEAUTY & FITNESS WORLD 2005

2nd Professional Exhibit for the Cosmetics, Skincare, Haircare, Wellness & Fitness Industry
May 26 - 28, 2005
World Trade Center Metro Manila

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER INQUIRER
OFFICIAL CABLE SPONSOR GLOBAL DESTINY
PUBLICATION PARTNERS h4 Health & Lifestyle
EVENT PARTNERS
OFFICIAL RADIO PARTNERS
PUBLICITY PARTNER

For more information please contact:
WORLDEXCO
WORLD EXHIBITIONS AND CONVENTIONS INC
Unit 1202 Sunset View Towers, 2230 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City 1300
(T) 891.8638 • 834.7505 (F) 834.0608 Email: mktg@worldexco.com

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BUSINESS
Text us your feedback: inquirer biz name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
B1
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Website: www.inq7money.net
*Editor* **Raul O. Marcelo**
*Assistant Editor* **Corrie S. Narisma**

**HP tc4200 Tablet PC**
The power-packed, ultra-portable with Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology provides users with security in a reliable Ultraportable that adapts to the way you work
Call ICS for more info!
INTEGRATED COMPUTER SYSTEMS, INC.
Tel. (632)727-3801 Web: www.ics.com.ph

# Net inflow of 'hot money' surges to $1.52B

**By Doris C. Dumlao**

**NET inflows of "hot money" or foreign portfolio investments surged to $1.52 billion in the first quarter, about 17 times better than the measly $91.5 million a year ago, due to improved investor appetite for local stocks.**

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. reported that the three-month portfolio inflows were more than triple the $486.8 million posted for the whole of 2004.

From January to end-March this year, foreign investments in securities listed on the Philippine Stock Exchange posted net foreign exchange inflows of $1.3 billion.

A net inflow results when the total amount of registered foreign portfolio investments, called "hot money" due to their volatile nature, exceeds the aggregate amount of capital repatriation or outflows.

The data was based on a report covering BSP-registered foreign portfolio investments funded by new inward foreign exchange inflows as well as outflows during the period.

The inflows to the stock market were fueled by huge foreign interest in recent initial public offerings by big companies, such as retail tycoon Henry Sy's SM Investment Corp. and the Ayalas' Manila Water Co.

Government securities and money market instruments, on the other hand, resulted in net inflows of $374.7 million and $7.1 million, respectively.

On the other hand, non-resident investments in peso bank deposits, generally temporary placements of sales proceeds from investments in various portfolio instruments, showed a net outflow of $157.1 million.

On a gross basis, portfolio investments registered during the period amounted to $2.29 billion or nearly four times the level registered in the same period last year.

Withdrawals of portfolio investments totaled $768.4 million or 50 percent better than the first-quarter level last year.

Under existing rules, registration of foreign investments with the BSP is required to enable investors to purchase foreign exchange from the banking system to service the remittance of dividends, profits and earnings on the investments as well as repatriation of sales proceeds from divestments.

Commercial banks have a delegated authority to register on behalf of the BSP these foreign investments in shares listed oin the PSE while investments in other types of instruments are required to be directly registered with the banking regulator.

The resurgence of foreign investments since the start of the year has allowed the appreciation of the peso, which traded below 55 last year, to 53-54 levels against the US dollar in recent months.

A visiting regional economist of British bank HSBC Ltd. said the worst was over for the Philippines and the government's "fading" fiscal woes would likely merit a one-notch sovereign credit-rating upgrade by Moody's Investor Service next year.

NET/ B4

# Power rates seen to go up by 78¢ per kWh

**By Abigail L. Ho**

POWER rates may again go up by an average of 78.06 centavos a kilowatt-hour (kWh) when the Energy Regulatory Commission approves some time this month the National Power Corp.'s rate adjustment applications to recover its cost fluctuations.

Last Jan. 18, Napocor lodged with the ERC its fourth filing for the generation rate adjustment mechanism (Gram) and its third for the incremental currency exchange rate adjustment (Icera).

The quarterly Gram allows Napocor to recover cost fluctuations related to its power purchase from independent power producers. The Icera, on the other hand, is a quarterly rate adjustment mechanism that allows Napocor to reflect foreign exchange fluctuations in the rates it charges its customers.

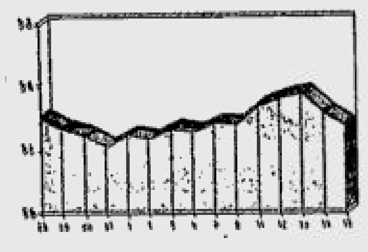
For its fourth Gram filing, Napocor is seeking

POWER/ B4

## INDICATORS

### CURRENCIES

PESO-DOLLAR RATE



₱ 54.630 = $ 1

As of 5 p.m., April 15, 2005

¥ 108.31 = $ 1

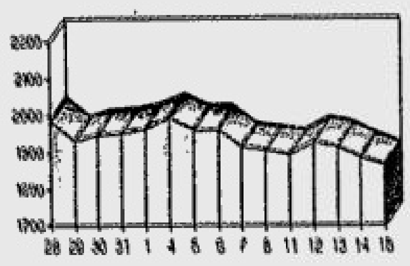
As of 5 p.m., April 15, 2005

GOLD: $429.30-429.80

per ounce Hong Kong,April 12, 2005

### STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



(See stock market report on Page B10)

## Bargain-hunting seen

INVESTORS are expected to start hunting for bargain stocks this week as they try to take advantage of a beaten down market.

But BPI Trade said this would be done with caution as investors wait for the release of more first-quarter net income results before they decide to put in more money.

"Investors are likely to maintain their cautious stance until there are more favorable developments on the value-added tax bill. But investors are likely to be on the lookout for opportunities to accumulate as the market is now oversold," BPI Trade said.

For the week, the main index lost 42.63 points or 2.23 percent tot 1,864.06 mainly due to the delay in the passage of the VAT bill in the Senate and on concerns that the Senate's VAT version would not raise enough revenues for the government.

An analyst from a local brokerage firm also said last week's drop was in step with Wall Street's.

Weaker sentiment in global markets overpowered the correction in crude oil prices last week. Analysts also said weaker earnings from the Lopez group—Manila Electric Co., First Philippine Holdings Corp., and ABS-CBN Corp.—weighed down the market.

BARGAIN-HUNTING/ B8

*"To become the pride of Bacolod in the restaurant business was not easy. But with the help of BPI Family Savings Bank's SME Business Loans, we were able to surpass the difficulties and succeed in our business endeavor."*

*Nestor and Rodelia Evaristo*
*Owners, Aboy's Restaurant*
*Bacolod City*

COOKING UP A FORTUNE TOGETHER WITH BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK.

Aboy's RESTAURANT BACOLOD

Who would have thought that one can bring Pampanga to Bacolod? The husband and wife tandem of Mr. Nestor and Rodelia Evaristo made that possible with Aboy's–a restaurant specializing in Kapampangan cooking right in the heart of Bacolod City.

Opened in 1992 with a capital of just P5,000, Aboy's stood out among Bacolod's restaurants not only because of its delightful, delicious Pampango cooking, but also because of the couple's trademark personalized service.

In addition, Aboy's distinguishes itself with its reasonable pricing and excellent ambience–where Ilonggos get the feeling of coming home, while non-locals enjoy the feeling of being welcomed.

Today, Aboy's is a destination for prominent Bacolod residents, local and foreign tourists and other known personalities in politics, show business, and sports. The husband and wife team continue to manage their business, now with the help of more than 100 well–trained employees.

Aboy's wouldn't have reached the peak of success without the support of BPI Family Savings Bank. Through SME Business Loans, the Evaristos were able to expand their restaurant business.

Nestor and Rodelia are now planning to build another restaurant. This is yet another joint venture with BPI Family Savings Bank's SME Business Loans–a formidable partner in turning dreams into realities.

SME BUSINESS IS FAMILY

SME Business Is FAMILY Business.

For inquiries on BPI Family Savings Bank's SME Business Loans, please call 754-6476 or 754-6424. • For provincial inquiries, please call any of the BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK Business Centers in your area. Bacolod (034) 435-0639 / 434-6524 Cagayan De Oro (088) 856-2902 Cebu (032) 231-3097 Dagupan (075) 523-4679 Davao (082) 235-3560 Iloilo (033) 337-8025/ 337-4458 Naga (054) 811-1042 / 437-5919 Pampanga (045) 860-5800 / 860-3014 San Pablo (049) 562-0364 / 562-3711.

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK

# Gov't prepares for 2nd international bond float

**By Michelle V. Remo**

THE GOVERNMENT is laying the groundwork for its second international bond float this year, in anticipation of the passage of the much-awaited bill to reform the value-added tax system.

"Obviously right now, the focus is getting the VAT passed so we can lift the cloud that is hanging over Philippine (bond) issuances," said Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima in an interview with reporters.

The DOF said investors have been keenly monitoring the progress of the VAT reform bill, and that its passage was expected to be cheered by the foreign capital market.

The DOF made its first bond float this year in January, when it raised $1.5 billion from the issuance of 25-year debt papers.

The government has programmed to borrow $4 billion from foreign sources this year.

Of the amount, $3 billion will be set aside for the national government's own financing requirements, while the remaining $1 billion is intended to fund requirements of state-owned National Power Corp.

After months of debates, the Senate finally passed its own version of the VAT reform bill, paving the way for deliberations by the bicameral committee of Congress.

However, the Senate version did not incorporate all the provisions pushed by the Arroyo administration.

While the executive branch was pushing for an increase in the VAT rate from 10 to 12 percent and the lifting of several VAT exemptions, the Senate only adopted the imposition of VAT on currently exempted sectors and kept the rate at 10 percent.

To compensate for the lost revenue from the VAT hike, the Senate approved an increase in corporate income tax from 32 to 35 percent.

Finance Assistant Secretary Gil Beltran said, however, that the DOF would still push for the VAT hike in the bicameral conference, but said the foreign credit market was expected to respond positively to any version of the VAT bill.

Purisima said the government was already getting a feel of the international credit market to determine the date of the planned launch of the ROP (Republic of the Philippines) bonds.

"The BSP believes that we should borrow as soon as possible as the VAT is passed because the US Fed may hike interest rates again," Purisima said. "That is why we are monitoring it (the market) carefully," he said.

The BSP suggested that the borrowing be made before the US Federal Reserve raise its interest rates again as it will divert money from risky investments such as RP bonds into solid US papers.

KOREA TRADE CENTER MANILA
INVITES
BUYERS , IMPORTERS , AGENT , DISTRIBUTORS TO MEET VISITING COMPANIES OF TWO KOREAN TRADE MISSIONS :
1. KOREAN WORLD CLASS PRODUCTS TM
2. KOREAN TRADE MISSION FROM PUSAN

KOREAN WORLD CLASS PRODUCTS
VENUE : DUSIT HOTEL, MAKATI
DATE : THURSDAY - 21 APRIL 2005

1. DREAMMIRH CO. LTD.
Access Control: Face and Fingerprint Recognition. Home Auto Door lock
2. LG CHEM LTD.
Bldg/Construction,Ad Sign Material Transparent ABS, PVC Coated, Acrylic Artificial Marble, Fabric Materials
3. SAEHAN
Reverse Osmosis Membranes (ROM) Filters for Water Treatment
4. YOUNG WOO CNI INC.
Textile Cad Design for the Garments Fashion, Carpet and other Industries

KOREAN TRADE MISSION FROM PUSAN
VENUE : INTERCON HOTEL, MAKATI
DATE : TUESDAY - 03 MAY 2005

1. CHEEWOO ENGINEERING
CadEdit: Edits, import/export, print & view CAD file formats at high speed
2. DAESUNG E.N.G.
Digital Temperature Controllers and Indicator, Panel Meters and Timers
3. JOONGANG COUPLING
Couplings : Gear, Disk, Micro, Rubber, Jaw, Tire, Grid for Various Industries
4. MARINESOFT
Educ/Training Software: Marine Ship Inspection Report, Management System
5. NADSOFT INC.
On-line Copyright Management Solution Software Protection of Data & CD Title
6. SHINWON INFO TECHNOLOGY
Core (Online) Banking Systems, Relay Systems (integrated), E-Banking
7. TAE KWANG ELECTRONICS
Digital/Analog Multimeters Testers, Clamp Meters; Insulation, Earth Testers etc.
8. WORLD 2000 TRADING
Insulation Displacement Connection (IDC) Terminal for Outdoor Telecomm

For confirmation of individual appointments, please contact Korea Trade Center (Kotra)
Attn:Charlie Alveyra, Jo Robrigado, RoxanneTan
Tels: 893-1183/ 893-3244 & 750-1788/750-1180
Fax: 817-3369 / 751-4358 Cel : 0918-9247172
or contact via E-Mail:charlie@kotra.com.ph.

# Mindanao farmers find ways to healthy living

*(First of two parts)*

**MINDANAWORLD**

*Joji Ilagan-Bian*

ADVOCATES of healthy living—like those subscribing to the famous South Beach Diet plus the "go organics" lifestyle—may just be what the vegetable farmers of Mindanao need to boost market and ultimately production.

I love the salads that are now found even in fast food chains!

The vegetables in the salads you eat in Metro Manila restaurants might just come from us.

Over the past three years, we have observed that Mindanao has been increasing production of high value quality vegetables that can compare with those from Benguet, Tagaytay, and even Australia. It is so exciting to note that Mindanao farmers are finding ways to healthy "living and business" through vegetables.

Corporate farms like Dole Tropifresh, Unifruitti Group, Lapanday, Marsman, Eden Corp. and Vava Veggies, have been expanding their production areas for semi-temperate vegetables like iceberg lettuce, leafy salad vegetables, broccoli, asparagus, and sweet corn.

### Corporate farms

These are delivered using reefer vans from Bukidnon, Davao and South Cotabato to Metro Manila fast food chains, hotels, restaurants and supermarkets. Their produce also reach markets in Asia like Japan and Singapore.

Market prospects must be encouraging as some of the corporate farms have started, or are considering, contract growership arrangements with individual farmers or producer-groups.

Small farmholders are excited about contract growership since it will give them the opportunity to improve their farm technologies and systems in synch with global standards. It will also give the farmers a slice of the export market.

Under this arrangement, it is anticipated that the corporate farms will spread the gains they expect from the business upside.

### Private sector initiatives

Independent farmers and farmer-groups are likewise taking a market-driven approach to producing and marketing vegetables by using clustering, product consolidation and value-chain principles.

The Northern Mindanao Vegetable Producers Association, Inc. (NorminVeggies) is promoting this approach by encouraging their members to think about the business side of farming by becoming agri-entrepreneurs.

NorminVeggies members are now delivering their produce to domestic institutional markets in the Visayas and Metro Manila.

Together with the Vegetable Industry Council of Southern Mindanao, Inc (VICSMin), they conduct lectures, on-farm hands-on training, farm clinics, congresses and trade exhibits to teach production and post-harvest best practices, integrated pest management, sustainable agriculture, and marketing.

### New export markets

In Central Mindanao, farmers are finding new export markets for their traditional crops like ginger, and are open to learning new technologies to enter and sustain these markets.

In Western Mindanao and the nearby islands of Sulu, local vegetable production is not yet sufficient for the region's needs.

As such, the newly-organized Western Mindanao Vegetable Industry Group is embarking on activities towards opening new production areas and adapting new technologies to increase yields and overall production output and to offer more affordable vegetables for the local consumers.

So the next time you eat your salads and veggies, you are not only "helping your body," but you are also "helping a Mindanao farmer!"

(Note: Thanks to GEM Field Officer Jasmine Agbon for the reference materials.)

*(Joji Ilagan Bian is a strong advocate for Mindanao, a member of the Export Development Council and former chair of the Mindanao Business Council, vice chair of the Mindanao Commission of Women, and chair of the Mindanao TVET. Email comments to jojibian2@yahoo.com)*

# CAP gets nod to seal deal with Europe firm

**By Elizabeth L. Sanchez**

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission (SEC) has no objection to a proposed equity deal between College Assurance Plan Philippines Inc. (CAP) and a European investment house to beef up the troubled pre-need firm's capital by as much as $15 to $25 million.

CAP's outstanding capital currently stands at roughly P300 million, the SEC said.

Fe Barin, SEC chair, said the pre-need firm need not need increase its capital to P8 billion.

She said that CAP virtually would be increasing its capital once it seals the equity deal with International Global Holdings Inc., CAP's proposed investor.

Barin said CAP's representative bank, should work on the issuance of an asset safe keeping receipt (ASKR) to IGHI to facilitate the release of the new funds.

An ASKR serves to verify CAP's assets, such that it holds in its possession some $150 million worth of MRT bonds. The ASKR however does not encumber CAP's assets to IGHI.

Once the ASKR is issued to IGHI, the new equity, said to be worth anywhere from $15 to $25 million, will come in to replenish CAP's shrinking trust fund within a period of 15 to 30 days.

IGHI is representated by a certain Ralph Bruce, SEC said.

CAP is also considering granting a board seat to IGHI, the SEC said.

Also in exchange for the fresh equity, CAP will issue preferred shares to IGHI equivalent to the amount of its investment.

The SEC earlier warned CAP not to draw from its trust fund, or pool of assets that guarantee its liabilities to plan holders, which has shrunk to around P4.7 billion from P8.5 billion last year.

# Manila, Tokyo inch closer to economic agreement

**By Ronnel W. Domingo**

AN ECONOMIC partnership agreement between Japan and the Philippines is expected to be finalized by September as trade officials from both sides discuss pending issues regarding the freer flow of goods, persons, services and capital between the two countries.

Trade Secretary Juan B. Santos, who arrived last week from an official visit to Japan, said Manila and Tokyo set a tentative period for closing the deal in hopes that talks would not drag on.

"Between now and September, negotiators expect to tighten the provisions and resolve critical issues of the (proposed Japan-Philippines EPA)," Santos said. "It is hoped that a legal framework for the Japan-Philippines EPA would have been laid out by May."

Last November, Manila and Tokyo announced that they had agreed in principle on major elements of a JPEPA that would lead to the immediate removal of tariffs on certain fruits, vehicles, steel products, electronic appliances and garments.

The two governments said they would "expeditiously proceed with work to finalize the agreement."

The pact also aims to encourage a comprehensive economic partnership covering intellectual property, competition policy, improvement of business environment and bilateral cooperation in fields like human resources development, information and communications technology as well as small and medium enterprises.

One of the major points that the Philippines had agreed to in November was the immediate removal of tariffs on more than 60 percent of steel products from Japan, as well as "certain types" of large vehicles, plasma televisions, and fruits such as grapes, apples and pears.

The Philippines also committed to gradually remove duties on all vehicles and auto parts, and electrical and electronic appliances and their parts, within 10 years of the JPEPA's effectivity.

For its part, Japan agreed to immediately remove tariffs on "almost all" industrial goods.

Japan also consented to the removal within 10 years of tariffs on raw cane sugar, cane molasses, muscovado sugar, chicken meat, pineapples and small bananas.

Japan's tariffs on yellowfin tuna and skipjack would be removed within five years, while those on other varieties of tuna would be up for renegotiation by the fifth year of the agreement.

Both sides agreed to dismantle right away tariffs on textiles and apparel.

However, they listed for exclusion or renegotiation sensitive products such as rice, wheat, barley and certain dairy products, as well as beef, pork, starches and fishery products under the quota system.

Also, Japan would allow the entry of Filipino nurses and certified careworkers, and would allow them to work after completing training on Nihongo and other subjects in preparation for obtaining their Japanese license.

After qualifying for work in Japan, nurses would be allowed to stay for three years and careworkers for four years. The visas are renewable.

Japan clarified that this arrangement would be based on the assumption that the Philippines would provide a similar framework to prepare Filipinos for work in Japan.

On the Philippine side, the government would undertake measures to ease the movement of natural persons, including the streamlining of immigration and work permit procedures.

Negotiations on the JPEPA started last February and took five sessions before reaching an agreement last Friday.

# Horses for Pacific courses

**COCKTALES**

*Victor C. Agustin*

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has feigned surprise by the rehabilitation case filed by Pacific Plans Inc., the country's first pre-need company.

Strange stance, since the SEC in August approved Pacific Plans' corporate restructuring application that effectively transformed it into a special purpose vehicle left holding all the problematic pre-need investments.

Parallel to the divestment, the Yuchengcos, led by chair/president Helen Y. Dee, resigned en masse from the Pacific Plans board, but not after transferring the safe pre-need products, those offering fixed benefits, into a new company, Lifetime Plans.

The Yuchengcos brought along with them about 400,000 pre-need plans into Lifetime Plans, leaving Pacific Plans with 34,000 open-ended, traditional education plans (those that promise to pay school fees in whatever amount come plan maturity), a ticking time bomb.

Left to clean up the mess and hopefully resuscitate the 38-year-old company is the new president, Ernesto Garcia, who used to be the chief operating officer of the Cojuangco-era, billion-dollar-loser Pilipino Telephone Corp.

After the transfer, Pacific Plans issued a press release saying it had established a subsidiary, Lifetime Plans, but the new Lifetime Plans website does not even mention what arguably is its parent company among the listed affiliates.

The Yuchengcos apparently saw the handwriting on the wall as early as 1992, when Pacific Plans stopped selling the traditional plans amid the newly deregulated tuition fee regime.

Thirteen years later, and despite the combined brainpowers of Yuchengco board nominees Cesar Virata, Roberto de Ocampo, Rizalino Navarro, Gabriel Singson, Carlos Dominguez, Corazon de la Paz, and Gloria Tan Climaco, the Yuchengcos finally threw in the towel.

In its petition for rehabilitation filed before Makati Regional Trial Court Judge Romeo Barza, Pacific Plans blamed the massive devaluation of the peso that "resulted in a poor business climate, further compromising a pre-need company's ability to meet its obligations."

A few paragraphs later, Pacific Plans, whose main liquid assets are the US dollar-denominated Napocor bonds, pointed to the now resurgent peso in asking the plan holders to all take involuntary haircuts.

By way of consolation, Pacific Plans says it can provide, depending on which school, P7,000 to P35,000 in tuition support up to the just-concluded semester. But starting next school year, the parents and plan holders are on their own.

If the court approves the rehabilitation plan, each plan holder will receive a certificate entitling him to a payment refund, plus 7-percent interest, come 2010, when the Napocor bonds shall mature.

To save the company, Pacific Plans is looking for investors that would pump in P300 million in working capital. The Yuchengcos, on the other hand, jumpstarted Lifetime Plans with only P200 million to acquire Pacific Plans' good assets.

To prevent dissipation of assets, the Makati RTC in the meantime prohibited Pacific Plans from "selling, encumbering, transferring, or disposing" any properties while the rehabilitation case is being heard.

Hmmm. What is that English idiom again, shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted?

### All aboard the House Express

TODAY'S hearing called by the House committee on good government on the P8.5-billion LRT-1 expansion project is the third congressional investigation to be launched in so many months.

The oversight committee, chaired by Rep. Danilo Suarez, called the first investigation, and recommended a third bidding, amid the lobbying by losing bidder Marubeni. This was answered by another round of hearings by the committee on railways and Ro-ro, chaired by Rep. Augusto Baculio, which recommended a go-ahead, no re-bid.

The third round of hearings that start today is going to be chaired by Rep. Arthur Defensor.

### Money-go-round

- THE ASIAN Institute of Management has forged an exchange program with the American University's School of International Service, largely due to the spadework done by the SIS director of alumni relations, Tina M. Maynigo, daughter of the late Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus.

  The partnership was celebrated Wednesday during cocktails at the Philippine Embassy in Washington.
- DESPITE the April 1 turnover, the Unilab website still lists Jose Campos Jr., instead of his elder sister Joy, as chairman-CEO.

### Heard through the grapevine

SAN Miguel president Ramon Ang has been bitten by the restaurant-bar bug, and has teamed up with sports impresario Bobong Velez to start a new venture, Mezze, in the space vacated by Soleil in Greenbelt 2.

If the SMC boss could direct all the hopeful and gorgeous models that daily troop to his 8th floor office to flock after office-hours to Mezze, and not be confused with Masa next door, then the new luxbar would definitely fly.

*(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)*

# Gov't trims growth targets due to surging oil prices

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE GOVERNMENT has raised the red flag amid skyrocketing global oil prices, finally admitting that medium-term economic growth targets would be downscaled as an inevitable consequence.

Malacañang's investor relations officer Cora Guidote said that based on recent government simulations, the rise in oil prices would likely chop off about half a percentage point in the country's gross domestic product growth this year to 5 percent and an even bigger 1.35 percentage points next year to 5.2-5.5 percent.

The government's Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP) originally forecasts a growth of 5.3-6.3 percent for this year and 6.3-7.3 percent for next year.

Guidote told reporters the MTPDP had assumed much lower global oil prices--$32.7 a barrel for this year and $29.20 for 2006--as against current prices of more than $50.

She said the latest forecast was that oil prices may average at $54.7 a barrel this year and $54.83 in 2006.

The IMF, for its part, has warned that long-term oil prices might hover between $39 and $56 a barrel and did not consider as far-fetched Goldman Sach's projection that it could even spike to as high as $100.

Even at current prices of about $54 a barrel, Guidote said the country's original growth expectations would no longer be feasible given the adverse impact of rising commodity prices.

Should oil prices hit $80 a barrel, she noted that the government might have to resort to drastic measures such as supply rationing to prevent the erosion of the country's foreign reserves resulting from higher importation costs.

Last year, she said the Philippines was still able to post a GDP growth of 6.1 percent, the strongest performance in 15 years, because the uptick in oil prices was just starting and its impact was still manageable.

"At this point, we're looking for ways like energy conservation and energy independence. We have to reduce our dependence on crude oil," Guidote said.

"Restoring the OPSF (oil price stabilization fund) is not an option as the government can't afford subsidies anymore, which makes it even more challenging to address the oil price crisis," she stressed.

Guidote noted that the transport sector was the biggest consumer of oil, accounting for half of oil imports. As such, she noted the government was now encouraging the use of derived compressed methane gas (CMG) as alternative fuel.

The government is also preparing emergency measures to cope with rising prices, with the National Economic Development Authority already tasked to map out alert levels that would merit certain policy response, she added.

"We need to conserve energy. People are still oblivious to the fact that oil prices have already skyrocketed. This is one of the reasons why we adopted the four-day work week (for government offices)," she said.

"The private sector should also do its thing as it is a bigger consumer of energy," she said, noting the government was now collaborat-

GOV'T/B8

BRENTVILLE
INTERNATIONAL
MAMPLASAN, BIÑAN, LAGUNA

Prominence II Townhouse

Brentville Main Clubhouse

Children's Playground

A fully completed world-class development.

Move in anytime at Brentville International, a fully developed community that has everything you need for a lifetime of luxurious living.

It features world-class facilities like a wide four-lane main road, underground electrical and communication facilities, well-designed clubhouse and amenities, and unique cluster-homes and single detached units.

Brentville lot buyers will enjoy access to Brent International School amenities.

Expatriates can also have their own-homes at Prominence II, the unique manor-like-cluster homes inside Brentville plus privileged access to The Palms Country Club in Filinvest Corporate City.

So come to Brentville International right now, where everything is in place and just waiting for you to make it your home.

807-6907 · 807-5511
www.brentville.com

How to get there: Brentville International is only 10 minutes away from Filinvest Corporate City. From the South Luzon Expressway, take the Mamplasan Exit. Turn left from the toll gate and you will find Brentville International.

*All images are actual photos taken from the site.*

FILINVEST
INVEST ON SOLID GROUND

# Airport agency delays $300-M loan signing

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE MANILA International Airport Authority is planning to change the terms of a planned $300-million loan, prompting the Arroyo administration to defer the MIAA borrowing for a few days to give way to the national government's upcoming $500-million bond issue.

Sources said the national government had tapped foreign banks Chase Manhattan, Deutsche Bank and HSBC to underwrite the government's 10- or 25-year dollar bond issue.

The $300-million, three-year MIAA borrowing attracted bids from 12 financial groups that were asked to submit their offers last April 6.

The operator of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport insisted that the proceeds of the borrowing would finance the agency's general requirements although the financial community believed that it would be used to pay the private contractor that built the controversial Naia Terminal 3.

MIAA general manager Alfonso Cusi said the borrowing would still be completed within the month but was "delayed for a few days" because of some changes.

"There may be changes in the denomination of the loan. We may simply go for pesos instead of dollars," Cusi said in an interview.

The MIAA originally sought underwriting proposals from banks for a $200-million loan along with a $100-million equivalent in local currency. Both should carry a three-year term.

Cusi denied that the MIAA was asked to defer the borrowing just to give way to the national government's bond issue.

Bankers, however, said that only one government entity would have to be in the debt market at a particular time so as not to confuse creditors and investors. The MIAA, through the finance department, received five proposals for the $300 million, three-year borrowing.

These were from Citigroup; the state-owned Development Bank of the Philippines; Deutsche Bank; the consortium of HSBC, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. and China Banking Corp.; and the group of ING, Standard Chartered Bank, Banco de Oro, Metropolitan Bank and Trust Co., Equitable PCI and Philippine National Bank.

A banker said that it would be better for the MIAA to borrow in pesos instead of dollars.

# Bank lending grew 5.8% in Feb. to P1.52T

**By Doris C. Dumlao**

LENDING by the country's commercial banks rose by 5.8 percent to P1.52 trillion at end-February, the highest rate of growth posted in almost a year, following modest improvements in the sector's unloading of bad assets.

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Officer-in-Charge Alberto Reyes reported that on a monthly basis, the sector's outstanding commercial loans rose by 0.9 percent, a reversal of the 1.1-percent contraction in December and 0.9 percent in January.

The 5.8-percent lending growth in February was also an improvement from the 4 percent annual loan expansion in January.

"The increased commercial bank lending was directed mainly toward the manufacturing sector, where loans grew by 16 percent year-on-year in February and contributed for almost 4 percentage points of the 5.8 percent growth," Reyes said.

He said there was increased lending in other sectors such as agriculture, fisheries and forestry whose availment went up by 14.1 percent contributing 0.7 percentage point to total growth.

Loans to the community, social and personal services sector also grew by 9.2 percent, contributing 1.4 percentage points to total growth while lending to financial institutions, real estate and business services also grew by 8 percent, contributing 2 percentage points.

In contrast, loans to the mining/quarrying and construction sectors declined by 46.4 percent and 18.2 percent, respectively, from the levels posted in February last year.

"The stronger growth in bank lending may be attributed in part to recent improvements in banks' NPL (non-performing loan) ratios which fell to 12.5 percent in January 2005 from 12.7 percent in the previous month," Reyes said.

"Going forward, growth in commercial bank lending is expected to strengthen further in line with the pace of real sector activity," he said.

Recognizing that credit was an important channel of monetary policy in the country, Reyes said the BSP remained steadfast in its efforts to clean up banks' balance sheets to improve overall lending activity.

"At the same time, the BSP continues to implement measures to strengthen the management of credit risk in the banking system in line with international best practice," Reyes said.

"Over the near term, the BSP will continue to shore up its efforts to ensure the appropriate conditions for continued credit growth in line with real sector activity, while fulfilling its primary mandate of price stability," he said.

# Net inflow of 'hot money' . . .

From page B1

HCBC's head of Asia-Pacific fixed income credit research Dilip Shahani said he was always cynical on the Philippines over the past three years but favorable trends both at the macro- and micro-level had reversed this view.

Shahani said other developments supporting his "cautiously optimistic" outlook on the Philippines were:

- Signs that the property market has bottomed out after going through a tough time since the Asian currency crisis of 1997, supported by strong inflows of remittances from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) and low interest rates;
- Banks are on a recovery path, although overall asset quality remained weak by international standards;
- There is little near-term risk of a balance-of-payment crisis as the country has been running current account surpluses for the past seven years and will continue to do so and OFW remittances remain as a stable source of foreign exchange that more than compensates for the slack in the export sector and foreign investments in recent years.

# Financing local development

## No Free Lunch

*Cielito F. Habito*

LATEST available statistics on the gross regional domestic product (GRDP) show that as of 2003, all regions of the country without exception are contributing to the overall growth in the economy. Fastest growing among the regions, with a hefty 11 percent or more than double the national GDP growth of 4.5 percent then, was Region 4-B consisting of the island economies of Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan, known collectively as Mimaropa. Also growing faster than the national average were Western Visayas, Northern Mindanao, Bicol, Metro Manila and Eastern Visayas. Clearly, much more is happening in our economy than what we can see in Metro Manila. Regional growth is propelling the economy's overall growth. And regional growth is in turn being propelled by the dynamic growth of our local economies.

### Local finance

Amid all the outcry on the fiscal crisis, one has to look beneath the national government's revenue and expenditure picture to find salvation. In 2004, the national government spent P884 billion against revenues of only P698 billion, for a deficit of P186 billion. Meanwhile, revenues collected directly by local government units (LGUs) in the period 1992-1999 accounted for a mere 5 percent of the combined revenues of national and local governments, according to a study by Dr. Rosario Manasan of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies. The implication is that there is great scope for increasing general government revenues if local governments could raise much more of it directly.

Dr. Manasan observes that in spite of the expanded taxing powers granted them by the 1991 Local Government Code (LGC), LGUs hardly increased their share of aggregate revenues, which had stood at 4 percent in the pre-LGC days. Rather than achieve greater fiscal self-reliance, the LGC-mandated increase in the LGUs' share of national internal revenues via their internal revenue allotments (IRA) appeared to foster dependence on the largesse from central government. The situation varies by type of local government. Cities appear to have been less dependent than provinces and municipalities. A paper by Polly Dichoso of the Evelio B. Javier Foundation cites data indicating that IRA accounted for less than half (44 percent) of the budgets of cities, but made up 78 and 74 percent for provinces and municipalities respectively.

### Tax powers

The LGC indicated what the local governments could tax and could not tax. Income taxes (both corporate and individual), customs duties, VAT, and excise taxes on the "sin products" and petroleum are reserved for central government. Cities and municipalities may collect real property taxes (RPT), the community tax, and a local business tax usually derived as a percentage of gross receipts. Apart from the real property tax, provinces may tax real property transfers, franchises, professionals, publishing and printing, sand and gravel extraction, amusement establishments, and delivery vans. In practice, provinces still derive an insignificant portion of tax revenues outside of the RPT.

The LGC also gave LGUs the authority to obtain grants directly from foreign donors, and to borrow money from banks or from the public by floating local bonds. They are also granted the authority to independently enter into build-operate-transfer (BOT) arrangements with the private sector. With such expanded powers for resource generation, one wonders why the LGUs don't raise more resources on their own rather than depend dominantly on the IRA. In a series of meetings with the various leagues of LGUs, we in the Ateneo Economic Policy Reform and Advocacy (EPRA) Project sought from local executives what they see as constraints that effectively stifle their ability to raise more revenues on their own. Below are just a few of them.

### Hurdles

Proceeds from real property taxes, the dominant local revenue source outside of the IRA, are limited by low assessed values of the taxed properties. It's bad enough that the LGC effectively lowered the assessment levels for taxation purposes of real properties (i.e. in the face of expanded LGU taxing powers). The problem is complicated by the fact that local assessors and treasurers are employees of the national government (i.e. Department of Finance), and apart from being beyond the control of local executives, have a great deal of discretion in setting individual property values for taxation. But more than that, local executives themselves balk at updating assessed values of real properties within their jurisdiction to realistic levels, for fear of a political backlash from constituents. Mayors have told me that they would only be too willing to raise assessments of their local property tax base—if they can avoid the political onus of doing so. While a few have mustered the political will to do it, it would help if the national government could mandate standard valuation guidelines that the mayors can invoke, to deflect the blame for what would result in dramatic increases in real property taxes paid by their constituents.

Still another constraint faced by LGUs is their inability to collect business taxes properly when local branches of big corporations book their income at their head office in Metro Manila. Mayors complain of difficulty in obtaining information from the BIR on actual income earned by these big firms' branches within their localities, so that they may collect the appropriate local business taxes. This problem is a lot easier to solve; Commissioner Parayno only needs to order that such information be readily shared with the LGUs. It appears that there is much the national government can still do to help the local governments raise more resources for themselves.

The country's development need not unduly suffer even with the national government's fiscal difficulties; we just need to work together to clear these bottlenecks to improved local resource generation.

*Comments welcome at chabito@ateneo.edu*

# Power rates seen to go up . . .

From page B1

an adjustment of 42.26 centavos per kWh for Luzon, 52.49 centavos per kWh for Visayas and 68.62 centavos per kWh for Mindanao.

Once approved, the average Gram increase will be 54.46 centavos per kWh for the three main grids.

For the Icera, the state firm seeks to adjust its rates by 51.94 centavos in Luzon, 10.23 centavos per kWh in the Visayas and 8.64 centavos per kWh in Mindanao.

On the average, the Icera-related adjustment will be 23.60 centavos per kWh nationwide.

If the ERC approves in full both the Gram and the Icera filings at the same time, Napocor's generation charge for Luzon will go up by 94.20 centavos per kWh in Luzon, 62.72 centavos per kWh in the Visayas and 77.26 centavos per kWh in Mindanao.

The country average for both Gram and Icera-related adjustments is placed at 78.06 centavos per kWh.

PLEASE CUT & SAVE THIS AD. ONE-TIME PRESS RELEASE ONLY

CENTER FOR
GLOBAL BEST PRACTICES
presents

BEST PRACTICES IN PROTOCOL
FOR BUSINESS ADVANTAGE

UNDERSTANDING BEST PRACTICES IN
DIPLOMACY AS A GUIDE TO ONE'S CONDUCT

MASTER THE RULES OF CORRECT BEHAVIOR IN THE PRACTICE OF DIPLOMACY

"A diplomat distinguishes himself from other professionals principally by his knowledge and practice of Protocol."

Ambassador Luis Moreno-Salcedo
Author, A Guide To Protocol

THE BENEFIT

Protocol, the universal language of correct behavior for effective diplomacy, can enhance the competitiveness of the global executive in the 21st century borderless economy.

Mastering the practice of protocol in business and everyday life is essential in any situation whether one is negotiating, marketing, dealing with people of different cultures, meeting with foreign dignitaries, or simply chatting with one's in-laws. Attend and master the art of "putting your best face forward." A MUST FOR EVERYONE!

★★★★★

LIMITED SLOTS ONLY
REGISTER NOW and avail
of EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS

CALL (+63 2) 842-7148 or 59. Seminar Investment is US $ 44 or P2,400 (Inclusive ofPM Snack, Handout, and Certificate of Attendance.
EMAIL: henry@cgbp.org

Who Should Attend:
- Presidents & CEOs
- Businessmen & Spouses
- International Traders
- Negotiators
- Hoteliers
- Events Organizers
- Government Officials
- HR Practitioners
- Students

1PM to 5:30PM * AIM CONFERENCE CENTER * Friday, MAY 6, 2005

Lecturer & Speaker: Ambassador Jose Abeto Zaide, Chief of Protocol, Department of Foreign Affairs. As a career diplomat, he has 37 years of solid experience in diplomacy and foreign affairs. Prior to his present position, he was assigned as Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, Austria, Slovenia, and Croatia. He was also the permanent representative to the International Organizations in Vienna. His foreign postings include Moscow, Brussels, New Delhi, Bonn, and Hamburg in various capacities as a diplomat.

INQUIRER BUSINESSWORLD

UNIVERSITY OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS

INVITES SENIOR EXECUTIVES, ENTREPRENEURS, GOVERNMENT AND NGO LEADERS

who want to face globalization by
> being more strategic in thinking
> being more grounded in economic tools for business
> being more socially committed
> learning with and from peers

STRATEGIC BUSINESS
ECONOMICS PROGRAM

DELIVERED BY
WORLD-CLASS PROFESSORS AND PRACTITIONERS

**Victor A. Abola**, (Ph.D. cand, UA&P) SBEP Program Director and Faculty; **Emilio T. Antonio** (Ph.D., Kiel Germany), **Roberto Asuncion** (Ph.D., Univ. Bamberg, Germany), **Vicente C. Dinglasan** (MBE, UA&P), **Rolando T. Dy** (Ph.D., UA&P), **Jerome Kilatchko** (Ph.D., IESE-Univ. of Navarre, Spain), **Fernan P. Lukban** (MSIE, UA&P; MBA, IESE), **George N. Manzano** (Ph.D., Univ. of New South Wales, Australia), **Winston B. Padojinog** (MSIE, UA&P), **Fr. Juan Manuel Perez** (Ph.D., Univ. of Navarre), **Cesar G. Saldaña** (DBA, Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University), **Roberto E. de Vera** (Ph.D., Pittsburgh), **Peter Lee U** (Ph.D., Purdue), **Bernardo M. Villegas** (Ph.D., Harvard)

LEADING TO:
CERTIFICATE IN BUSINESS ECONOMICS
MASTER IN BUSINESS ECONOMICS

HELD IN:
UA&P (PASIG)
CEBU CITY (VISAYAS)

For more information, please contact:
(UA&P-SBEP Manila) Ms. Ira Coates at telephone number (02) 634-2820 / (02) 637-0912 loc. 222
(UA&P-SBEP Cebu) Mr. Brian Bulawan at tel: (032) 253-4411
E-mail: sbep@uap.edu.ph

# Transco auction deferred anew

By Abigail L. Ho

BORACAY, Aklan—The privatization of National Transmission Corp. (Transco) has been deferred again to October as the terms of reference for the bidding of the concession agreement have yet to be finalized.

A source privy to the matter said that although the bidding for the Transco concession had been moved again, the government would make sure that the October target would be met so as not "to disappoint investors."

"Congress would insist on the October target for the privatization of Transco. This is part of the entire effort of the government (for fiscal reforms). Taxes alone will not deliver us from fiscal hell," the source said.

Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. had intended to privatize the Transco concession in December last year. However, this was pushed back to the first quarter and then to July of this year because of some changes in the bidding process.

From a negotiated bidding scheme, which was adopted after two failed auctions, the government decided to revert to the open bidding method. Thus, the terms of reference for the auction have to be prepared.

Transco president and chief executive Alan Ortiz said in an interview Thursday that a draft of the terms of reference was ready but it had to be submitted to the Joint Congressional Power commission for its members'

TRANSCO/B9

Summer Outing Package
Riverview
Resort & Conference Center
Php 80.00
Php 95.00
• Entrance & Swimming Fee
• Access to a near Olympic size Pool with 20 ft. high twister slide • Access to kiddie pool with slide
• Use of Open Native Huts • Use of Common Shower & Bath
• Free use of Barbeque Grill • 15% Discount on Bowling Games
• Ample Parking Space
Cell. No.: 0918-9142837 • 0917-5440913 Manila: (02) 925-6858 / 928-4014
Calamba: (049) 545-1856 / 545-2112 Website: www.riverview.com.ph

COOL-IT IN SUBIC
- ONE ROOM NIGHT W/3 FULL MEALS
- HOT WATER & AIRCON W/PRIVATE T & B

₱750/PAX – 3/ROOM SHARING

- SEMINAR VENUE W/PROPS & SNACK
- GARDENS, SWIMMING POOL, & CABLE TV

ALL-IN VALUE SEMINARS
CROWN PEAK HOTELS TELS: (047) 252-3144 / 252-8236 TEL.&FAX [illegible]
CELPHONE # [illegible]

ASHAMED OF YOUR DARK UNDER-ARMS?
[illegible]
CALL ME NOW! [illegible]
(02) 3744201
(02) 4118319
09177907525
[illegible]

STOP TIMEKEEPING FRAUD NOW!
Titanium PC-Based Biometric Time Recorder
- Unlimited number of employees
- Unlimited number of transactions
- Less than 3 seconds identification time
- Optionally integrate with Titanium ePayroll
- Double-swipe warning
- Review historical time records

PhP 16,498*
vat-inclusive
*PC with USB port and Windows 98 required.

AUTHORIZED PROVINCIAL DEALERS
Angeles : Rockbottom Superstore (45) 8926549
Bacolod : Datalink Technologies (34) 4333316 4351425
Cebu : A.I. Logic Inc. (32) 2561860 4126116
Cebu : CBX Corporation (32) 2314369
Cebu : Dreamtech Enterprises (32) 3453350 3440550
Cebu : Premium Thinking Sol'n (32) 3438920 3438884
Davao : DCTech Micro Services (82) 2212380
Dagupan : Bitstop Inc (75) 5221264 - 65
Iloilo : Concept Computer (33) 3376874
La Union : PC4Me Computer (72) 8882249 8880873
Tacloban : Electrocomputer Data (53) 3255904
Tuguegarao : Abana Computer Srvcs (78) 8449004
TITANIUM TECHNOLOGIES
THE COMPUTERS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY
phone/fax 534.2506-08 0920-9614898 www.epayroll.ph inquiries@epayroll.ph

PSBank
Peso TIME DEPOSIT
Earn as high as 7.00%

| Deposit Amount (in pesos) | Interest Rates (%) 30 days | 60 days | 90 days | 1 year |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 100,000 - 499,999 | 4.875 | 5.000 | 5.125 | 5.250 |
| 500,000 - 999,999 | 5.500 | 5.625 | 5.750 | 6.000 |
| 1.0MM - 4,999,999 | 5.750 | 6.000 | 6.125 | 6.250 |
| 5.0MM - 9,999,999 | 6.000 | 6.250 | 6.375 | 6.500 |
| 10 million and up | 6.250 | 6.500 | 6.750 | 7.000 |

*Quoted rates are subject to change without prior notice.
Rates are on per annum basis and net of documentary stamp taxes.
Open an account now at any PSBank branch nationwide or text us at PSBANK PTD <your name> <your landline no.> <your e-mail address> then send to 2327 for Globe or 0917-8902327 for non-Globe users.
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor P250,000.00

WHEELCHAIR CUSHION
Anti-bedsore cushions & back supports

- Prevents bedsores
- Distributes pressure
- Best for wheelchair patients

Also available:
Wheelchair back supports
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
STAR MILLS PAMPANGA 2nd Floor (45) 636-3513
SM MANILA 5th Floor 484-1471
ROBINSONS PIONEER 2nd Floor 687-6828
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr. Bldg. A 635-0436
SM SOUTHMALL Basement 802-1565
SM NORTH EDSA Car Park Plaza 453-3326
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418-7540
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
CEBU 412-4818

NEGOSYONG FOOD CART
(Earn P20,000 - P30,000 / Month)
BARYABALLS STATION
P 65" ONLY (PROMO)
WITH OVER 100 CARTS TO SERVE YOU
DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND !!!

[illegible] FOOD CART
DRINK STATION CART P 65th
FRIED CHICKEN CART P 90th
BURGERS & SANDWICH CART P 90th
WE PROVIDE SITES, MANPOWER & INITIAL STOCKS FREE
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
PEOPLE'S FRANCHISE and BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INC. [illegible]
Tels 995-7099 • 995-7101 (Ms. ANNE)
Reserve Now and Get Big Discount!!!

NOW AVAILABLE
TRADERS QUALITY PRODUCT
SUPER CAKE MIXER SPIRAL MIXER WATER PUMP

5L, 7L, 10L, 15L, 20L
20L, 30L, 50L
JET PUMP 1/2 Hp 3/4 Hp, 1Hp
ISO 9001 CERTIFIED
New Arrival: "TRADERS"
Popcorn machine, sugarcane presser, hotdog roller, deep fryer, meat slicer, electric griddle, juice extractor
We also carry:
Industrial & Household Appliances, Water Pumps, Weighing Scales, Bakery Equipments (Gas Oven, Bread Slicer & Dough Roller, etc.) Sprayers, Motors, Engines, Generators, Water Tanks & Other General Merchandise
BEST PRICE MULTI SALES CORP.
727 Ilaya St., Binondo, Manila
Tels.: 245-0275 • 244-5551 • 245-0274 • 245-0290
Telefax No.: 247-7087
E-mail address vianmatt@yahoo.com.ph

AS LOW AS ₱300
FREE ESTIMATE!

FAX REPAIR
Panasonic NEC SAMSUNG
SANYO [illegible] [illegible]
MUVA SHARP OKI
NISSEI Canon OTHERS
ALSO REPAIR COMPUTERS, PRINTERS, MONITORS, TYPEWRITERS, TV, AUDIO VIDEO, AND OTHER OFFICE EQUIPMENTS.
KCS KINGS
G/F Auro-Vir Plaza, 1895 Evangelista St., Bangkal, MAKATI CITY 894-2309 843-6630 843-6662
Rm. C RGH Building 83 Timog Avenue, QUEZON CITY 374-7963 411-6380
CUT THIS AD AND AVAIL OF A 15% DISCOUNT

AIR PURIFIER
with Aromatherapy Generator
AromaMAX™ Ionizers
Perfect for vans, taxis, fx's, trucks and other automobiles.

Made in USA
1 Year Warranty

DUST
SMOKE
ODOURS
MOLD

- Clears air irritants and pollutants
- Removes charged particulates with negative ions
- Neutralizes odors with freshening ozone
- Silently circulates cleaner, fresher air
- Can easily rest on your car's dashboard

Many Benefits of Negative Ionization:
• Asthma, Allergies & other Respiratory Problems & Illnesses • Migraine Headaches • Depression • Fatigue • Sleep • Mental Performance and Concentration • Physical Performance

| Aromatherapy Application to Ease | Aromatherapy Scent Jasmine | Rose |
|---|---|---|
| Anger | X | X |
| Disappointment | X | |
| Grief | X | X |
| Indecision | X | |
| Jealousy | X | X |
| Fatigue (emotional & mental) | X | |
| Panic | X | |
| Sadness | X | X |
| Shock | | X |
| Shyness | X | X |
| Suspicion | X | |
| Tension | X | X |

TAP MAX PRODUCTS™ PHILIPPINES
Unit A-115 Hillcrest Cond., 1616 E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave., Cubao, Q. C.
Tels.: 722-1031 & 726-8607 Fax No.: (632) 721-7401
Cell. No.: (0917) 835-1945 E-mail: biscor@skynet.net

We'll fix it FAST!

Fax Machines • Computers • Monitors • Printers (Laser, Deskjet, Dot Matrix) • Key Telephone Systems • Bundy Clock • Answering Machines • Paper Shredders • UPS-AVRs • Typewriters and other office equipments
hp Panasonic EPSON SHARP OKI XEROX SANYO [illegible] SAMSUNG brother muratec Canon
CITIWORLD
GUARANTEED 60 MINS. SERVICES RESPONSE
Main Office: Lower Ground, David 1 Building, 567 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 725-7031 / 724-5823 / 723-4894
Makati Office: 3A, Trans-Phil House 1177 Chino Roces Ave., Corner Bagtikan St., Makati City
Tel. Nos.: 895-1435 / 896-6032

Looking for an alternative for fingerprint readers?
Looking for a reliable biometric reader?
Prevent payroll fraud! Try RSI Handreaders...
#1 Biometric Handreader in the world!

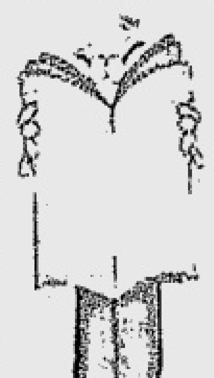
Payroll software providers and access control system integrators welcomed! Must have knowledge in integration or softwares
Call MAIN HARDWARE, Nick Sy tel 733.26.16 fax 733.26.14 or projects@mainhardwareinc.com
IR Recognition Systems
Proven Source. Proven Solutions.™
www.handreader.com

Enjoy the Convenience of Living Beside the Mall

1BR & 2BR UNITS AVAILABLE

One Gateway Place
28-Storey Residential Condominium
EDSA corner Pioneer Street
Mandaluyong City
Beside Robinsons Place Pioneer Mall
636-0888
0922-8380888
www.robinsonsproperties.com.ph
or email at
properties@rlc.com.ph
ROBINSONS LAND CORPORATION
Model Units Available for Viewing at the Project Site

62 Years
Bob's
PICTURE PERFECT!
Order any one of these portrait sizes:
The time to avail of this offer is when you are dressed for an occasion and looking your very best.
40" x 60" (lifesize)
30" x 40"
20" x 24"
And get another copy of the same size FREE!*
In lieu of gallery sitting, old and new photographs may also be accepted.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1-315, Series of 2005
By Appointment
MALATE
1754 M. Adriatico St., Malate, Manila, Tel 524-1777 • 523-1533 Fax: 522-1099
MAKATI
924-A San Lorenzo Arcade, Arnaiz Avenue, Makati, Telefax: 844-4899 816-1567
*See in-store posters for details.



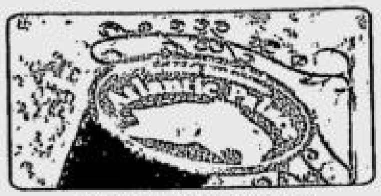
Where you find the best.
VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com
JOB Market
JOBMarket ONLINE

Panalo ka sa kakaibang negosyong ito!
Cut signs like pros!
Roland
The No. 1 Choice of Signmakers around the World.

Precision
40"
Amazing ROI! Prices start at Php 32,500.

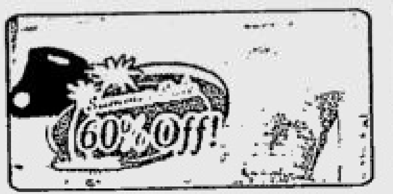
CAMM-1 Pro

Professional indoor signs and labels

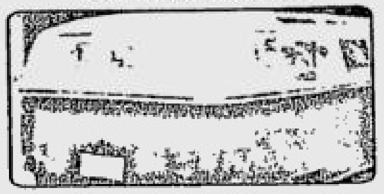


High-quality outdoor signs

Attention getting public signs



Beautiful window displays



Eye-catching vehicle graphics

Innovative Designs/Concepts

Vinyl sticker cutting business offers many profitable applications. Choose Roland cutters, world-reknown for unmatched reliability and ease of use. With its precise contour cutting features, you work like a pro.
Exclusively Distributor:
Tgraf TEAM GRAPHICS
Tel: 726-3991 to 98 locals 232,204,203
Fax: 723-7951
Email: inquire@tgraf.com.ph
www.tgraf.com.ph
Other Tgraf business packages include Xerox Phaser for Print-on-Demand Roland Versacamm for labels and stickers. Roland Soljet for banners and billboards, Roland EGX for engraving Javelin for ID card printing Ilford Studio digital photo enlargements, and more Call us NOW and put yourself in a fresh, new business!

PATIO PACIFIC
Boracay
(Formerly Pink Patio)

Php 5,715.00
per person
(twin sharing)
Valid until June 12, 2005
12/F Multinational Bancorp Centre
6809 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Tel: 849 2272 to 27
Email: sales@patiopacificboracay.com

# Finance expecting ₱128B in additional revenue

**By Michelle V. Remo**

THE DEPARTMENT of Finance aims to raise P128 billion in additional revenue within one year through the fiscal-reform measures pushed by the government.

It said the amount was needed to make the country's revenue collection at par with its neighbors.

Finance Undersecretary Emmanuel Bonoan said it would work on collecting P128 billion in incremental revenue in a year's time to improve the government's revenue-to-GDP (gross domestic product) ratio by 2.5 percentage points.

At present, the country's revenue-to-GDP ratio is only 13.5 percent. The DOF wants to increase the figure to 16 percent to be at par with those of Thailand and Malaysia.

Bonoan said the P128 billion in incremental revenue can be raised through the implementation of the sin taxes law and the lateral attrition law, the Bureau of Internal Revenue's No-Audit Program (NAP), the pending rate hike of National Power Corp. and the VAT reform bill.

The BIR's No-Audit Program invites yet-to-be-detected delinquent taxpayers to voluntarily increase their tax payments by 20 to 25 percent from that of the previous year's in exchange for exemption from tax audit. The program is aimed at collecting revenues from tax delinquents without the hassle and expenses of court procedures.

In the meantime, a petition for the second round of increase in Napocor rates is now pending with the Energy Regulatory Commission. Napocor earlier raised its electricity-generation rate by 98 centavos per kilowatt-hour, but the increase was only half of what it asked from the ERC.

For its part, the VAT reform bill, the biggest revenue generator among the government's fiscal reform programs, is up for deliberation by the bicameral conference committee of Congress this week.

Bonoan said that after getting certain revenue measures approved by Congress, the next challenge for the executive branch would be to collect the expected revenues from these measures.

He said the DOF had given its commitment to Congress that it would raise the expected revenues from the fiscal reform measures.

Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima said that once the 16 percent revenue-to-GDP ratio was achieved, the DOF would seek a World Bank loan facility that would help solve the country's fiscal problem.

He explained that under the proposed loan program, the World Bank would provide credit to the Philippines to pay off its maturing obligations with commercial lenders. Since the World Bank offers a much lower interest rate than commercial lenders, the country would be able to generate savings, he added.

# DOTC to help fund Mindanao airport

**By Clarissa S. Batino**

THE DEPARTMENT of Transportation and Communication has signed an agreement with National Development Co. and Philippine Infrastructure Corp. to help finance the construction of a P6-billion airport in Northern Mindanao.

The transportation department said it could use a 150-hectare airport property in Cagayan de Oro valued at about P7.5 billion to help fund the construction of the new airport in Laguindingan, Misamis Oriental.

The Laguindingan airport is one of the priority projects of the Arroyo administration.

The project is estimated to cost $107.7 million or about P6 billion. About 75 percent of the money will come from multilateral lenders and the rest from the government.

Transportation Assistant Secretary Robert Castañares said that part of the plan was to form a joint venture among the DOTC, NDC, PIC and the Air Transport Authority.

The joint venture, said Castañares, would try to raise money "out of the 150-hectare Lumbia airport in Cagayan de Oro City."

"The plan is to transfer Lumbia airport to the joint venture which, in turn, could float bonds, borrow against it, sell it or develop it with a private group. We have to monetize the old Lumbia airport and use the money to finance Laguindingan," said the transport official.

Lumbia sits on a 150-hectare property valued at P5,000 a square meter.

Castañares said the DOTC budget could not accommodate the P5-billion airport project in Misamis Oriental.

"So the department entered into an agreement with NDC and PIC. NDC will look for investors and raise money through bonds or borrowings," the official explained.

The Laguindingan project includes engineering design and the construction of the airport, including a passenger terminal building, parking area and access road.

The government said the airport could be completed by the end of 2007.

# Pope John Paul II: Love letter to the elderly

## QUESTIONS OF POLICIES

**Honesto C. General**

ON 1 October 1999, Pope John Paul II wrote a love letter to the elderly. He started by quoting the Psalmist, "Seventy is the sum of our years, or eighty if we are strong, and most of them are fruitless toil, for they pass quickly and we drift away" (Ps: 90:10).

Then, the Pope said, "As an older person myself, I have felt the desire to engage in a conversation with you. I do so first of all by thanking God for the gifts and the opportunities, which he has abundantly bestowed upon me up to now… My thoughts turn with affection to all of you, dear elderly people of all languages and cultures… In this letter I wish simply to express my spiritual closeness to you as someone who, with the passing of the years, has come to a deeper personal understanding of this phase of life and consequently feels a need for close contact with other people of his own age, so that we can reflect together on the things we have in common."

Pope John Paul II lengthily discusses the elderly in Sacred Scripture. "Old age is so highly esteemed that long life is seen as a sign of divine favor. In the case of Abraham, in whom the privilege of old age is stressed, this favor takes the form of a promise: 'I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great. I will bless those who bless you and him who curses you I will curse; in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.' At Abraham's side is Sarah, a woman who sees her body growing old, yet experiences within the limitations of her aging flesh the power of God who makes good every human shortcoming."

"Moses too was an old man when God entrusted him with the mission of leading the Chosen People out of Egypt. Among other examples of elderly people in the Bible, I would mention Tobit, who humbly and courageously resolved to keep God's law. There is also Eleazar, whose martyrdom bore witness to an exceptional generosity and strength."

"The New Testament, filled with the light of Christ, also contains eloquent examples of elderly people. The Gospel of Luke begins by introducing a married couple "advanced in years": Elizabeth and Zechariah, the parents of John the Baptist… In the temple at Jerusalem, Mary and Joseph bring Jesus to offer him to the Lord, or rather, in accordance with the Law, to redeem him as their firstborn son. There they meet the aged Simeon, who had long awaited the Messiah."

"Nicodemus too, a highly regarded member of the Sanhedrin, was an elderly man… How reassuring are all these examples! They remind us that at every stage of life the Lord can ask each of us to contribute what talents we have. The service of the Gospel has nothing to do with age!"

With his health failing, the Pope wrote. "Dear elderly friends who feel insecure because of ill health or other circumstances, I assure you of my closeness and affection. When God permits us to suffer because of illness, loneliness or other reasons associated with old age, he always gives us the grace and strength to unite ourselves with greater love to the sacrifice of his Son and to share ever more fully in his plan of salvation. Let us be convinced of this: he is our Father, a Father rich in love and mercy!

"If life is a pilgrimage towards our heavenly home, then old age is the most natural time to look towards the threshold of eternity.

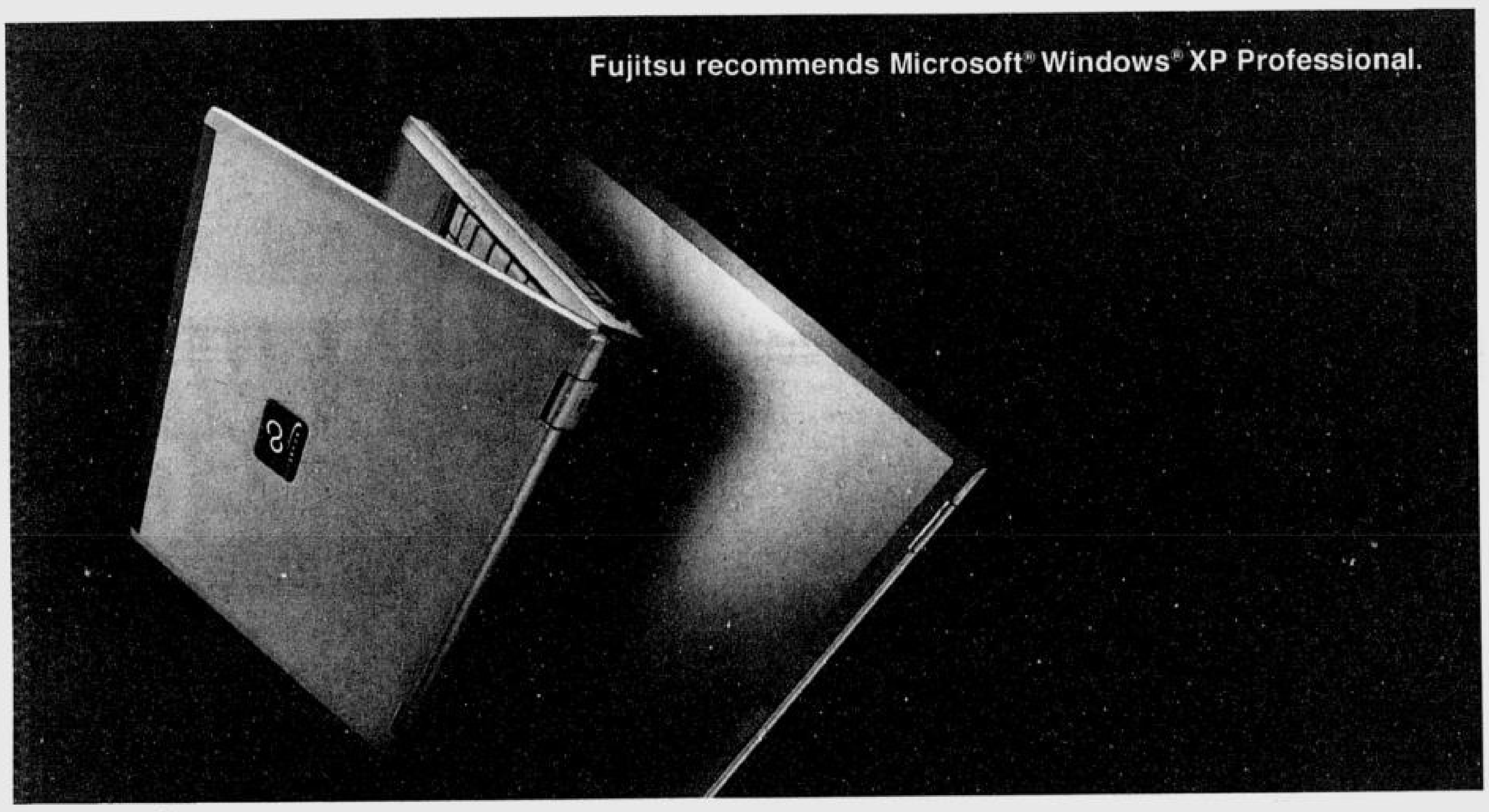
"Faith thus illuminates the mystery of death and brings serenity to old age, now no longer considered and lived passively as the expectation of a calamity but rather as a promise-filled approach to the goal of full maturity. These are years to be lived with a sense of trusting abandonment into the hands of God, our provident and merciful Father. It is time to be used creatively for deepening our spiritual life through more fervent prayer and commitment to the service of our brothers and sisters in charity.

"Most commendable then are all those social programs enabling the elderly to continue to attend to their physical well-being, their intellectual development and their personal relationships, as well as those enabling them to make themselves useful and to put their time, talents and experience at the service of others. In this way the capacity to enjoy life as God's primordial gift is preserved and increases. Such a capacity to enjoy life in no way conflicts with that desire for eternity which grows within people of deep spiritual experience, as the lives of the saints bear witness.

"In this spirit, dear elderly brothers and sisters, as I encourage each of you to live with serenity the years that the Lord has granted you, I share a spontaneous desire to share fully with you my own feeling at this point of my life, after more than twenty years of ministry on the throne of Peter and as we await the arrival, now imminent, of the Third Millennium. Despite the limitations brought on by age, I continue to enjoy life. For this I thank the Lord. It is wonderful to be able to give oneself to the very end for the sake of the Kingdom of God!"

The Letter contains gems of wisdom too numerous to take up in a column. You can buy a copy of the Letter from any of the bookstores of the Daughters of Saint Paul. Considering the joy you will get from reading the Letter, P45 is dirt-cheap.

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE INFINITE FUJITSU



Wireless excellence with Fujitsu LifeBook.

Powered by Intel® Centrino™ Mobile Technology.

Ultra-Portable
LifeBook S6230

- Lightweight at 1.65 kg*
- Hot-swappable modular bay option

From P 99,000.00

Slim and Light
LifeBook S7010

- Second-generation mobile micro-architecture processors from Intel®
- One of the smallest 14" notebook footprints

Rich Multimedia Features
LifeBook S7011

- Fingerprint Recognition technology for secured computing
- Rich multimedia related features - brilliant SuperFine display
- Small 14" footprint, thin and light at less than 2 kg

* With weight saver option

Built-In Confidence

LIFEBOOK

Fujitsu Philippines, Inc. (FPI)
Customer CareLine: +63 (2) 841-8488
Sales Hotline: +63 (2) 894-8557
Website: http://ph.fujitsu.com/fpl
Service Hoteline: +63 (2) 841-8400

Authorized Distributor: Quadron Technologies, Inc. - 1606 The Taipan Place Condominium, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Tel: 9140324 to 27

intel inside centrino MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

Wireless connectivity and some features may require you to purchase additional software, services or external hardware. Availability of public wireless LAN access point limited. System performance measured by MobileMark® 2002. System performance, battery life, wireless performance and functionality will vary depending on your specific hardware and software configurations. Intel, Intel logo, Intel Inside, Intel Inside logo, Intel Centrino, Intel Centrino logo, Celeron, Intel Xeon, Intel SpeedStep, Itanium, and Pentium are trademarks or registered trademarks of Intel Corporation or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. Microsoft and Windows are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Bluetooth is a trademark owned by its proprietor and used by Fujitsu under license. All product information is correct at the time of printing.

# 3 foreign groups in talks to buy 22% stake in Nextel

By Clarissa S. Batino

THREE foreign groups are in talks to acquire about 22 percent of Next Mobile Inc.

The proceeds from the buy-in will give the local telecom player a fresh $25 million to finance its medium-term expansion program.

Mel Velarde, chair and chief executive officer of Next Mobile declined to identify the firms but described them as a telecommunications company operating in the Middle East, a global venture capital company and a New York-based investment house.

"We would have to choose just one out of three investors. It would be a beauty contest. We would choose the one that would give us the best offer," Velarde said.

Velarde said Next Mobile planned to borrow an additional $10 million by the middle of 2006 to finance its expansion.

## Cebu expansion

Next Mobile is investing P100 million this year to expand its network in Cebu. About P60 million would come from internal funds while the rest would come from loans.

Wilfred Racadio, Next Mobile's chief finance officer, said the United Coconut Planters Bank had also agreed to lend about P40 million to the company.

"Once we have raised the $35 million (including a $10 million loan), then we have enough funds to bankroll our operations for five years," said Velarde.

## Listing

One of the requirements of the foreign groups would be for Next Mobile to be listed at the stock exchange.

Velarde said plans were underway to list the company by September this year.

Next Mobile is controlled by the Velarde Group Inc. One of its subsidiaries, Gamboa Holdings Inc., signed last month an agreement to purchase two-thirds of listed firm Cashrounds Inc. for P74.3 million.

Cashrounds will likely be Next Mobile's vehicle for backdoor listing after the latter's agreement to purchase listed Premiere Entertainment fell through.

"The investors we are talking with wants us listed because they want an exit strategy," Velarde said.

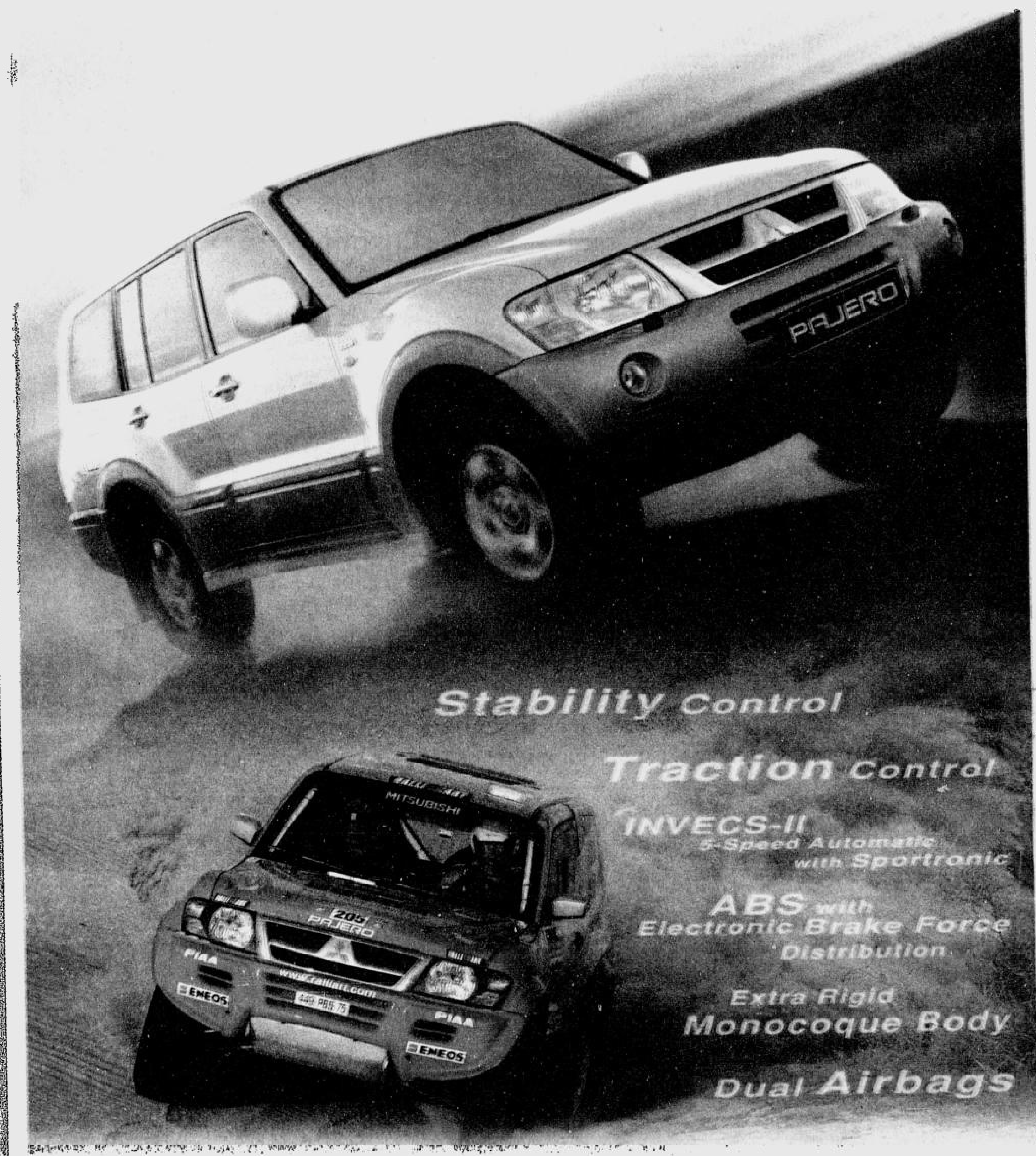
He said American firm Nextel, which used to own a portion of Next Mobile, also kept its option to repurchase its 20-percent stake in the company.

Next Mobile claims to be the country's first and only fully integrated digital wireless operator.

It integrates digital two-way radio, mobile telephony, and data services.

The company's 30,000 subscribers use Next Mobile handsets like a walkie-talkie or as a phone.

Mitsubishi PAJERO
Excellence driven.



Our insatiable drive to improvement has led us to countless victories. Victories almost impossible to achieve. Like winning for the 5th consecutive time in the most intense race in the world—the Dakar Rally. And these triumphs are not only experienced by our Dakar participants but also those who drive the Pajero. Because what we learned in Dakar, we apply in the Pajero. Improving its power, suspension, torque and handling.

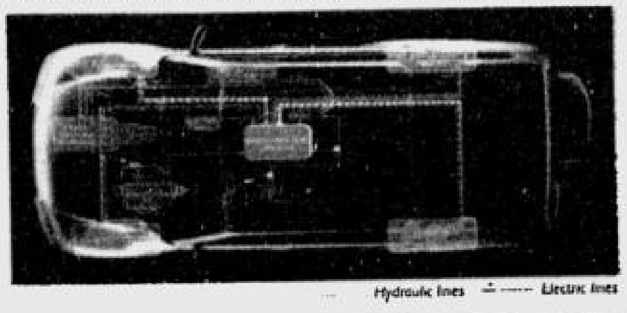
That's why when you drive a Pajero, you are a winner.

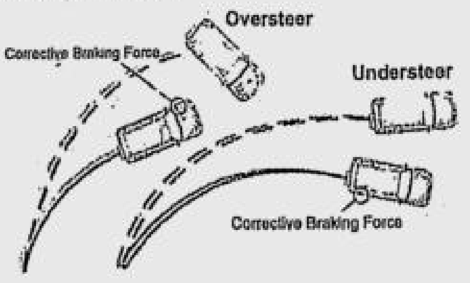
Barcelona-Dakar 2005 Overall Winner

MITSUBISHI
PAJERO
Take Command

M-ASTC

*Utilizing a comprehensive network of intelligent sensors to monitor each wheel, as well as engine speed, accelerator, steering and vehicle attitude in terms of yaw, M-ASTC precisely manages engine output, power distribution and braking force to deliver improved vehicle control, traction and tracing in all driving conditions. With a complete awareness of vehicle orientation and driver intention, M-ASTC allows driving enthusiasts to benefit from the full potential of the new 3.8-liter gas engine in complete confidence.*





• Invecs-II 5 speed A.T with Super Select 4WD (SS4 II)

3.8 V6

Powerful yet economical 3.8L 24V SOHC ECI-Multi Gas Engine
Also available in 3.2L 16V DOHC T/C I/C Electronic Diesel Direct Injection (DID)

**Independent Suspension.**
*Pajero holds the road better, regardless of terrain, thanks to increased wheel travel and added traction. It all starts with the monocoque body, coil springs and 4-wheel independent suspension a feature not found on conventional SUVs. But, then, convention never really was your game.*

www.mitsubishi-motors.com.ph

***See your nearest Mitsubishi dealer now!***

*METRO MANILA:* CITIMOTORS, INC.-Makati (Main) - Tel. Nos. 892-0331 to 42 CITIMOTORS, INC. - Las Piñas - Tel. Nos. 875-1645 / 875-1704 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Greenhills (Main) - Tel. Nos.: 727-0351 to 90 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Quezon Ave. Tel. Nos. 372-3001 to 15 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Marcos Highway - Tel. Nos. 645-4801 to 05 DIAMOND MOTOR - Fairview Tel. Nos.: 935-3731, 418-2045 DIAMOND MOTOR CORP. - Valle Verde - Tel. Nos.: 671-9590 to 94 MITSUBISHI MOTORS BALINTAWAK -- Tels. 330-7562/8901 to 05 UNION MOTOR CORP. - Paco (Main) - Tel. Nos.: 563-8481 to 86 / 563-8401 to 07 UNION MOTOR CORP. - Abad Santos - Tel. Nos.: 251-7021 to 36 UNION MOTOR CORP. - Kalookan - Tel. Nos. 364-2061 to 69 *LUZON DEALERS:* AMCAR AUTOMOTIVE CORP.- Sta. Rosa, Laguna - Tel. Nos. 420-8057 to 58 CALEB MOTOR CORP. - Naga City Tel. (054) 811-6119 CARWORLD, INC. - Pampanga (Main) Tel. Nos.: (045) 963-1111 CARWORLD, INC. - Malolos Tel. Nos. (044) 791-6320 / 791-2405 to 06 CARWORLD, INC. - Marilao Tel. Nos.: (044) 711-2695 to 97 CARWORLD, INC. - Olongapo Tel. Nos. (047) 222-3743 / 224-4307 CARWORLD, INC. - Tarlac Tel. Nos. (0452) 982-5551 to 53 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES OF BALIUAG CORP. - Baliuag Tel. Nos.: (044) 673-4083 / 766-4236 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES OF CABANATUAN CORP. - Cabanatuan (Main) Tel. Nos.: (044) 463-1391 / 463-6105 FREEWAY MOTOR SALES - Isabela Tel. (078) 682-8401 JABEZ MOTOR CORP. - Dasmariñas Cavite Tel. Nos. (046) 416-5968 / 850-0119 / 416-5900 / 850-1081 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - Calasiao (Main) Tel. Nos.: (075) 517-3060 / 517-5635 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - Baguio City Tel. Nos. (074) 300-3571 / 446-0157 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - La Union Tel. Nos.: (072) 705-5050 / 705-3834 MOTORPLAZA, INC. - Urdaneta Tel. Nos. (075) 568-2502 / 568-3312 SFM SALES CORP. - San Pablo (Main) Tel. Nos. (049) 562-0690 to 91 / 562-6560 SFM SALES CORP. - Lipa Tel. No. (043) 756-1018 *VISAYAS DEALERS:* AVESCOR MOTORS - Iloilo Tel. Nos.: (033) 337-4455 / 337-6486 / 337-6487 AVESCOR MOTORS - Bacolod Tel. Nos.: (034) 435-2111 to 14 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. (Main) Tel. Nos. (032) 345-1233 / 420-577 / MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Dumaguete Tel. Nos. (035) 225-1427 to 29 / 225-6926 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Tacloban Tel. Nos. (053) 323-2520 / 323-2379 to 80 / 323-3724 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Tagbilaran Tel. Nos.: (038) 411-2661 / 411-5814 to 15 *MINDANAO DEALERS:* KARASIA, INC. - Davao (Main) Tel. Nos. (082) 222-1111 to 16 KARASIA, INC. - Davao (South) Tel. Nos.: (082) 298-1490 to 94 / 298-0175 to 77 KARASIA, INC. - Tagum Tel. Nos.: (084) 217-3582 MINDANAO INTEGRATED COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. Nos. (083) 302-0586 to 87 (083)552-4781 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Butuan Tel. Nos.: (085) 815-3080 MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU CORP. - Cagayan de Oro Tel. Nos. (088) 855-1546 ZAMBOANGA MOTORS, INC. Tel. Nos.: (062) 991-2189 / 991-2138 / 991-2250 / 993-0766

3 WARRANTY

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

# Gokongwei group seen eyeing Uniwide real estate assets

**By Doris C. Dumlao and Elizabeth L. Sanchez**

TAIPAN John Gokongwei, who has interests in retailing, aviation, food and beverage, and telecommunications, is looking at acquiring some pieces of property held by Uniwide Holdings Inc.

Uniwide had disclosed that prospective investors were looking at the company, but a spokesperson for the Gokongwei group said there was no plan to buy out the debt-strapped retail firm.

"We confirm that we have received feelers from a number of investors for Uniwide Holdings Inc. However, in view of confidentiality concerns of these investors, we could not disclose the identity of these interested parties," Uniwide said in its disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange last week.

Aside from the Gokongweis, also rumored to be looking at Uniwide was the SM Group, the country's biggest mall operator owned by retailing tycoon Henry Sy. But sources familiar with the activities of the Sy family denied such an interest.

Shares of Uniwide spiked by 27 percent Wednesday on talks that the debt-strapped retail group had found a white knight in Chinese-Filipino businessman Lucio Co.

Industry sources said Uniwide had attracted Co's interest because of the possible synergy with his own Pure Gold grocery chains.

One source said Co had considered buying into Uniwide in the past but that talks did not progress, adding the businessman appeared to have revived negotiations on a possible takeover.

Analysts said Uniwide still had certain property holdings in seven locations that would be strategically beneficial to Pure Gold.

What had intensified the market's expectation that Co was indeed planning to take over Uniwide was that a stockbroker affiliated with the businessman, King's Power, was gobbling up shares at the stock market over the past few days.

Uniwide earlier attracted interest even from Henry Sy's SM group and French retailer Carrefour but these eventually pulled out over pricing issues.

**G & W clubshares**
SEC License Broker No.: A-17597
FREE PLAYING RIGHTS AVAILABLE
As of April 18, 2005
SHARES AVAILABLE

| CLUB | SELLER | BUYER |
|---|---|---|
| Alabang Country Club A/B* | 1,150,000 | - |
| Alta Vista A/B* | 250,000 | - |
| Baguio Country Club | Pls. Call | 500,000 |
| Calatagan Golf | 40,000 | - |
| Camp John Hay | Pls. Call | - |
| Canyon Woods | 140,000 | - |
| Capitol Hills | 100,000 | - |
| Cebu Country Club | Pls. Call | - |
| Celebrity Sports | 120,000 | 100,000 |
| City Sports Club Cebu | Pls. Call | - |
| Eagleridge A/B*/C** | 200,000/230,000*/Pls. Call** | - |
| Eastridge A/B* | 130,000 | 85,000* |
| Forest Hills A/B*/C** | 130,000/180,000*/250,000** | 110,000/160,000* |
| Manila Golf Corporate | Pls. Call | 11,500,000 |
| Manila Golf Individual | Pls. Call | - |
| Manila Polo | Pls. Call | 2,000,000 |
| Manila Southwoods A/B* | Pls. Call* | 370,000/670,000* |
| Makati Sports Club | 210,000 | 170,000 |
| Metropolitan Club A/B* | 120,000/170,000* | 100,000 |
| Mimosa C2/C3* | 220,000 | 260,000* |
| Mimosa Golf Ind. | 160,000 | - |
| Mt. Malarayat A/B* | 190,000 | 150,000 |
| Orchard A/B*/C** | 280,000* | 270,000*/330,000** |
| Puerto Azul | 60,000 | - |
| Riviera Golf A/B*/C** | 120,000/150,000* | 160,000** |
| Riviera Sports | 45,000 | - |
| Rockwell Leisure Club | Pls. Call | - |
| Royale Tagaytay CC | 50,000 | - |
| Sherwood A/B*/C** | 70,000/110,000*/160,000** | - |
| Sta. Elena Golf A/B* | 1,200,000/1,600,000* | Pls. Call |
| The Palms Country Club | 550,000 | 470,000 |
| Tagaytay Country Club | Pls. Call | 370,000 |
| Tagaytay Highlands | 800,000 | - |
| Tagaytay Midlands | 700,000 | 680,000 |
| The Country Club | 2,000,000 | - |
| Valle Verde Ind. | 120,000 | - |
| Valley Golf | 280,000 | - |
| Wack Wack Golf | Pls. Call | Pls. Call |

Tel. 7723246-49/8504151-52/8426731
8092038/(0917)3287789
E-mail:gwclubshares@pacific.net.ph

**FRANCISCO V. DEL ROSARIO HOLDINGS, INC.**
YOUR TRUSTED SPECIALIST BROKER SINCE 1982•
SEC License #2115
OUR 23rd Year
BUY/SELL GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB SHARES
As of April 15, 2005

| CLUB | SELLING | BUYING |
|---|---|---|
| Alabang Country Club "A" |  | 1M |
| Alabang Country Club "B" | 1.150M | - |
| Baguio Country Club | 550K | 500K |
| Camp John Hay | 170K | - |
| Canlubang Golf Club | please call | - |
| Canyon Woods | 125K | - |
| Capitol Hills "A" | 95K |  |
| Club Punta Fuego | 500K | 400K |
| Eagleridge Golf Club "A" | 250K | 150K |
| Eagleridge Golf Club "B" | 290K | - |
| Eagleridge Golf Club "C" | 280K | - |
| Eastridge Golf Club "A" | 110K |  |
| Eastridge Golf Club "B" | 125K | 100K |
| Forest Hills Golf Club "C" | 240K | 200K |
| Makati Sports Club "A" | 190K | - |
| Manila Golf Club (Indiv.) | 11M |  |
| Manila Golf Club (Corp.) | please call | 1M |
| Manila Polo Club | 2.130M | 2M |
| Manila Yacht Club | 330K |  |
| Manila Southwoods "A" | - | 390K |
| Manila Southwoods "B" |  | 700K |
| Metro Club "A" | 120K | 90K |
| Orchard Golf Club "A" | 180K | 160K |
| Orchard Golf Club "B" | - | 280K |
| Orchard Golf Club "C" | - | 340K |
| Phil. Columbian Association |  | 30K |
| Riviera Golf Club "A" | 150K |  |
| Riviera Golf Club "B" |  | 150K |
| Spa & Lodge | 850K | - |
| Sherwood Hills "A" | 80K | - |
| Subic Bay Yacht Club | 100K | - |
| The Country Club at TH | 430K |  |
| Tagaytay Highlands Golf Club |  | 640K |
| Tagaytay Midlands | 750K | - |
| Tower Club (Ind.) | 300K |  |
| Valley Golf Club | - | 230K |

LESSORS for PLAYING RIGHTS also available
please call / inquire
AMIE MAGAT / VIRGIE LIM / REY CUEVAS / ROMY RIBAÑO
Tels: 818-6991 • 818-6948 • 818-6936 Fax #818-5453
E-MAIL ADDRESS: fvrhi@info.com.ph

**ANG TAN GOLF CLUB & SHARES, INC.**
SEC Licensed Golf & Club Shares Brokers No. 10573
BUYING, SELLING, PLAYING RIGHTS? 24 HOURS TEL. NOS:
**connie ang** 253-0008 • 321-0061
Trading Mgr./Real Estate Broker 256-6001 • 256-3188
09175289968
WACK-4,SM,FORES C-220/BUY: POLO, FORES B, CAMP-170,FUEGO,HIGHLAND,MLA.GOLF; LOT/HOUSE/CONDO-ORTIGAS,MKTI,PACIFIC FORT,CORINTHIAN,GREENMEADOWS,VALLEVERDE,GREENHILLS,ACROP.

**GG & A Club Shares**
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of April 18, 2005

| CLUB | SELLER | BUYER |
|---|---|---|
| Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino) | 1,150,000 | 1,050,000 |
| Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner) | 1,200,000 | - |
| Baguio Country Club | 575,000 | 500,000 |
| Calatagan Golf Club "A" | 40,000 | - |
| Camp John Hay | 175,000 | - |
| Canlubang | - | 450,000 |
| Capitol Hills | 100,000 | - |
| Cebu Country Club | 1,900,000 | - |
| Celebrity Sports Club | 120,000 | 80,000 |
| Club Filipino | 150,000 | 100,000 |
| Eagleridge "A" | 200,000 | 160,000 |
| Eagleridge "B" | 290,000 | - |
| Eagleridge "C" | 300,000 | - |
| Fairways "C3" | - | 300,000 |
| Forest Hills "A" | 140,000 | 100,000 |
| Forest Hills "B" | 180,000 | - |
| Forest Hills "C" | 200,000 | - |
| Makati Sports Club "A" | 190,000 | 170,000 |
| Makati Sports Club "B" | 200,000 | - |
| Manila Golf (Corporate) | - | 11,600,000 |
| Manila Golf (Individual) | 11,400,000 | 11,000,000 |
| Manila Polo | 2,250,000 | 2,050,000 |
| Manila Southwoods "A" | 400,000 | 350,000 |
| Manila Southwoods "B" | - | 700,000 |
| Manila Yacht Club | 400,000 | 300,000 |
| Metroclub "A" | 120,000 | 90,000 |
| Mimosa (Individual) | 200,000 | 130,000 |
| Mimosa (Corporate) | - | 300,000 |
| Mt. Malarayat Gold "A" | 250,000 | - |
| Mt. Malarayat Gold "C" | 300,000 | 180,000 |
| Orchard Golf Club "A" | 180,000 | 150,000 |
| Orchard Golf Club "C" | 450,000 | 340,000 |
| Quezon City Sports Club | 160,000 | - |
| Riviera Golf Club "C" | 275,000 | - |
| Riviera Sports | 50,000 | - |
| Spa & Lodge | 650,000 | 600,000 |
| Sta. Elena "A" | 1,300,000 | - |
| Sta. Elena "B" | 1,600,000 | - |
| Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate) | 170,000 | - |
| Subic Bay Yacht (Individual) | 100,000 | - |
| Tagaytay Country Club | 400,000 | 370,000 |
| Tagaytay Highlands | 750,000 | 700,000 |
| Tagaytay Midlands | 700,000 | 680,000 |
| Valle Verde (Individual) | 120,000 | 100,000 |
| Valle Verde (Corporate) | 200,000 | - |
| Valley Golf | 300,000 | 230,000 |
| Wack-Wack Golf Club | 6,500,000 | 6,000,000 |

*PLAYING RIGHTS ALSO AVAILABLE
For more information, please call:
Tel.no. 840-1761 • Fax 894-3021 • Mobile 0927-8785673
or e-mail at: ggashare@mozcom.com
Penthouse, Pacific Star Bldg. Sen Gil Puyat cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
CLUB SHARES BY CREDIT CARD !!!
You may now charge your purchase or lease of clubshares using your credit card
Great deals for deferred payment transaction await major accredited cardholders.
For inquiries, call our hotline 751-GOLF / trunk line 840-1761, or log on to
www.ggaclubshares.com for more details

# Holcim posts ₱1.2-B profit

HOLCIM Philippines Inc. said it returned to profitability last year, reporting a net income of P1.2 billion as against the previous year's net loss of P318.7 million.

Holcim Philippines is a subsidiary of Holcim, one of the world's leading suppliers of cement and construction-related services.

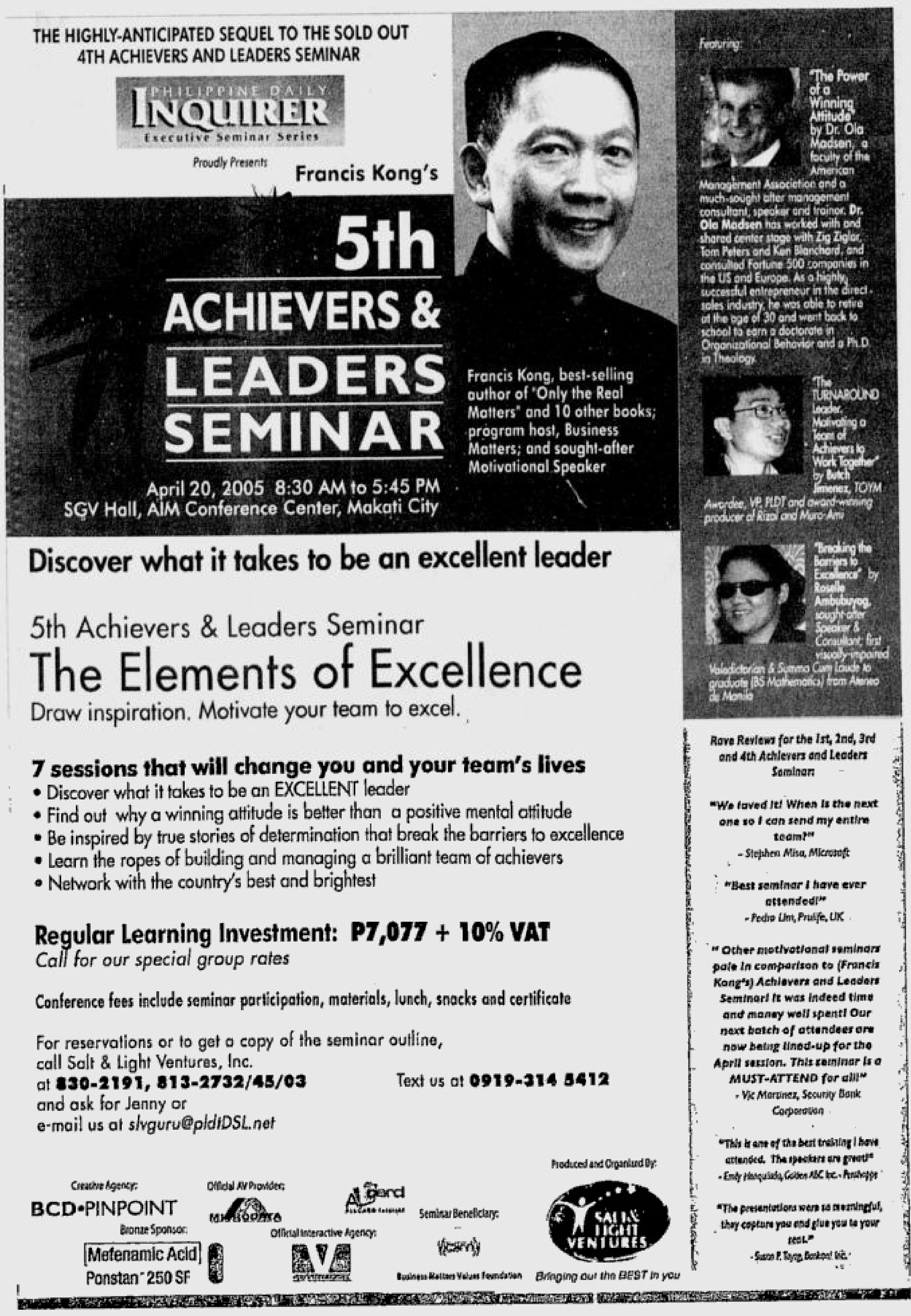
In a statement, it said the positive results were due to a recovery in cement prices, increased export volume and low levels of cement import.

Costs, however, remained under pressure due to the continuing increases in fuel and electricity prices which grew 50 percent year-on-year.

Improved earnings were also due to the introduction of new products designed to be more energy efficient and environment-friendly.

The company also said it was starting to yield the benefits of the integration of Union Cement and Alsons Cement, maximizing synergies between the two companies.

Holcim added that the business conditions in 2004 remained difficult with domestic cement demand declining by 3 percent. "The year 2004 has been a fruitful but challenger year for Holcim Philippines and the future will continue to be more challenging for the business. Demand for cement continues to be low while government funds are limited for infrastructure spending," said Paul O'Callaghan, Holcim Philippines chief operating officer. *Elizabeth L. Sanchez*



THE HIGHLY-ANTICIPATED SEQUEL TO THE SOLD OUT 4TH ACHIEVERS AND LEADERS SEMINAR
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Executive Seminar Series
Proudly Presents
Francis Kong's
5th ACHIEVERS & LEADERS SEMINAR
April 20, 2005 8:30 AM to 5:45 PM
SGV Hall, AIM Conference Center, Makati City

Francis Kong, best-selling author of 'Only the Real Matters" and 10 other books; program host, Business Matters; and sought-after Motivational Speaker

Featuring:
"The Power of a Winning Attitude" by Dr. Ola Madsen, a faculty of the American Management Association and a much-sought after management consultant, speaker and trainor. Dr. Ola Madsen has worked with and shared center stage with Zig Ziglar, Tom Peters and Ken Blanchard, and consulted Fortune 500 companies in the US and Europe. As a highly successful entrepreneur in the direct sales industry, he was able to retire at the age of 30 and went back to school to earn a doctorate in Organizational Behavior and a Ph.D. in Theology.

"The TURNAROUND Leader: Motivating a Team of Achievers to Work Together" by Butch Jimenez, TOYM Awardee, VP, PLDT and award-winning producer of Rizal and Muro-Ami

"Breaking the barriers to Excellence" by Roselle Ambubuyog, sought-after Speaker & Consultant; first visually-impaired Valedictorian & Summa Cum Laude to graduate (BS Mathematics) from Ateneo de Manila

Discover what it takes to be an excellent leader

5th Achievers & Leaders Seminar
The Elements of Excellence
Draw inspiration. Motivate your team to excel.

7 sessions that will change you and your team's lives
- Discover what it takes to be an EXCELLENT leader
- Find out why a winning attitude is better than a positive mental attitude
- Be inspired by true stories of determination that break the barriers to excellence
- Learn the ropes of building and managing a brilliant team of achievers
- Network with the country's best and brightest

Regular Learning Investment: P7,077 + 10% VAT
Call for our special group rates

Conference fees include seminar participation, materials, lunch, snacks and certificate

For reservations or to get a copy of the seminar outline, call Salt & Light Ventures, Inc. at 830-2191, 813-2732/45/03 and ask for Jenny or e-mail us at slvguru@pldtDSL.net
Text us at 0919-314 5412

Rave Reviews for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Achievers and Leaders Seminar:
"We loved it! When is the next one so I can send my entire team?" - Stephen Misa, Microsoft
"Best seminar I have ever attended!" - Pedro Lim, Prulife, UK
"Other motivational seminars pale in comparison to (Francis Kong's) Achievers and Leaders Seminar! It was indeed time and money well spent! Our next batch of attendees are now being lined-up for the April session. This seminar is a MUST-ATTEND for all!" - Vic Martinez, Security Bank Corporation
"This is one of the best training I have attended. The speakers are great!" - Emily Hanquilado, Golden ABC Inc. - Penshoppe
"The presentations were so meaningful, they capture you and glue you to your seat." - Susan F. Tayag, Bankard Inc.

Creative Agency: BCD•PINPOINT
Official AV Provider:
Bronze Sponsor: Mefenamic Acid Ponstan 250 SF
Official Interactive Agency:
Seminar Beneficiary: Business Matters Values Foundation
Produced and Organized By: SALT & LIGHT VENTURES
Bringing out the BEST in you

# Gov't

From page B3

ing with the private sector to come up with a more comprehensive energy conservation program.

Guidote said high oil prices should be a big concern. On top of huge demand from fast-growing economies like China and India, she said the sharp uptick in oil prices was also a result of speculative position taken by hedge funds similar to the pressures exerted on Asian currencies during the 1997 financial turmoil.

She said the Philippines might soon take a lead in mobilizing other oil-importing countries for a concerted global action to manage oil prices.

For the first time in nearly five years, the Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas recently raised key overnight rates by 25 basis points to ward off further inflationary pressures from skyrocketing global oil prices.

In a recent world economic outlook, the IMF cited major reasons why it expected oil supply to remain tight in the coming years:

- Oil demand will continue to grow robustly because of the improvement in standards of living in developing countries, such as China;
- Investment has been subdued in the past because of high expected volatility in prices and also regulatory impediments to investment.

## PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of April 15, 2005)

| STOCKS | OPEN | HIGH | LOW | CLOSE | VOLUME |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES** | | | | | |
| **BANKS** | | | | | |
| Banco de Oro Univ. Bank | 27 | 27 | 26.5 | 27 | 301,800 |
| Bank of the Phil. Islands | 49.5 | 50 | 48.5 | 48.5 | 390,100 |
| China Banking Corp. | 660 | 660 | 660 | 660 | 420 |
| Citystate Savings Bank | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 17.5 | 1,000 |
| Export and Ind. Bank Inc. | 0.73 | 0.75 | 0.73 | 0.74 | 1,730,000 |
| International Exch. Bank | 18.25 | 18.25 | 18.25 | 18.25 | 27,100 |
| Metropolitan Bank & Trust | 32 | 33 | 31.5 | 32 | 199,000 |
| Philippine National Bank | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 27,300 |
| Rizal Comm. Banking Corp. | 13.5 | 13.5 | 13.5 | 13.5 | 5,400 |
| Security Bank Corp. | 28 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 100,000 |
| Union Bank of the Phil. | 28 | 28 | 28 | 28 | 10,400 |
| **FINANCIAL SERVICES** | | | | | |
| First Metro Invest. Corp. | 285 | 285 | 285 | 285 | 380 |
| Manulife Financial Corp. | 2510 | 2510 | 2510 | 2510 | 80 |
| PCI Leasing & Fin. Inc. | 1.06 | 1.06 | 1.06 | 1.06 | 487,000 |
| Phil. Stock Exchange Inc. | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 3,700 |
| Sun Life Financial Inc. | 1680 | 1680 | 1660 | 1675 | 610 |
| **COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL** | | | | | |
| **COMMUNICATION** | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. | 15 | 15 | 14.75 | 14.75 | 11,600 |
| Digital Telecom Phils Inc. | 1.12 | 1.12 | 1.06 | 1.08 | 3,933,000 |
| Globe Telecom Inc. | 845 | 845 | 840 | 840 | 66,270 |
| Ipeople Inc. | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.3 | 4.35 | 136,000 |
| Island Info and Tech Inc. | 0.046 | 0.046 | 0.046 | 0.046 | 400,000 |
| ISM Communications Corp. | 0.05 | 0.0525 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 7,500,000 |
| Pilipino Tel. Corp. | 3.25 | 3.3 | 3.25 | 3.3 | 903,000 |
| Phil. Long Dis Tel Co. | 1365 | 1370 | 1360 | 1365 | 334,480 |
| Philweb Corp. | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.019 | 0.019 | 11,900,000 |
| **POWER, ENERGY & OTHER UTILITIES** | | | | | |
| Manila Electric Co. A | 17.25 | 17.25 | 16.75 | 17 | 30,300 |
| Manila Electric Co. B | 24.25 | 24.25 | 23.75 | 24.25 | 513,000 |
| Manila Water Co. Inc. | 6.4 | 6.4 | 6.3 | 6.3 | 3,327,000 |
| Petron Corp. | 3.45 | 3.45 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 1,695,000 |
| Trans-Asia Oil and Energy | 1.24 | 1.24 | 1.22 | 1.22 | 147,000 |
| **TRANSPORTATION SERVICES** | | | | | |
| Asian Terminals Inc. | 1.8 | 1.8 | 1.78 | 1.78 | 140,000 |
| Int'l Container Term'l Sv | 7.1 | 7.1 | 7 | 7.1 | 729,000 |
| **CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS** | | | | | |
| Engineering Equip. Inc. | 0.7 | 0.71 | 0.7 | 0.71 | 4,580,000 |
| Holcim Philippines Inc. | 3.25 | 3.25 | 3.25 | 3.25 | 190,000 |
| Republic Glass Hldg. Corp. | 1.72 | 1.72 | 1.72 | 1.72 | 50,000 |
| **FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO** | | | | | |
| Ginebra San Miguel Inc. | 33 | 33 | 33 | 33 | 208,400 |
| Jollibee Foods Corp. | 28.5 | 28.5 | 28.5 | 28.5 | 108,200 |
| RFM Corp. | 0.91 | 0.91 | 0.88 | 0.91 | 470,000 |
| San Miguel Corp. A | 57 | 58 | 57 | 58 | 127,700 |
| San Miguel Corp. B | 82.5 | 82.5 | 81.5 | 82.5 | 534,500 |
| Vitarich Corp. | 0.29 | 0.29 | 0.29 | 0.29 | 1,500,000 |
| **HOLDING FIRMS** | | | | | |
| Abacus Con Res & Hdg B | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 10,000,000 |
| Ayala Corp. | 6.9 | 6.9 | 6.7 | 6.7 | 2,128,000 |
| Aboitiz Equity Ventures | 4.6 | 4.6 | 4.55 | 4.55 | 407,000 |
| Ajo.Net Holdings Inc. | 0.041 | 0.041 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 3,400,000 |
| A. Soriano Corp. | 1.98 | 2 | 1.96 | 1.98 | 242,000 |
| APC Group Inc. | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 400,000 |
| Alcorn Gold Res. Corp. | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.007 | 41,000,000 |
| Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc. | 14.25 | 14.25 | 14 | 14 | 2,700 |
| Boulevard Holdings Inc. | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 1,520,000 |
| Benpres Holdings Corp. | 1.04 | 1.04 | 1 | 1.02 | 21,159,000 |
| A Brown Co. Inc. | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 30,000 |
| Basic Consolidated Inc. | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 1,930,000 |
| Crown Equities Inc. | 0.235 | 0.24 | 0.235 | 0.24 | 1,780,000 |
| Southeast Asian Cement | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 720,000 |
| DMCI Holdings Inc. | 3 | 3.05 | 2.95 | 2.95 | 1,823,000 |
| Ever-Gotesco Resources | 0.045 | 0.045 | 0.045 | 0.045 | 600,000 |
| Filinvest Dev. Corp. | 1.34 | 1.34 | 1.34 | 1.34 | 130,000 |
| Fil-Hispano Holdings Corp. | 9 | 9.2 | 9 | 9.1 | 771,000 |
| First Phil Hldgs Corp. | 47.5 | 47.5 | 45.5 | 46 | 1,894,800 |
| Forum Pacific Inc. | 0.21 | 0.21 | 0.21 | 0.21 | 100,000 |
| Global Equities Inc. | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.0875 | 0.0875 | 1,300,000 |
| House of Investments Inc. | 1.52 | 1.52 | 1.52 | 1.52 | 100,000 |
| Ionics Inc. | 1.42 | 1.46 | 1.42 | 1.46 | 91,000 |
| J.G. Summit Holdings Inc. | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 277,000 |
| Macroasia Corp. | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 50,000 |
| Megaworld Corp. | 1.34 | 1.34 | 1.34 | 1.34 | 620,000 |
| Mabuhay Holdings Corp. | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 0.15 | 100,000 |
| Metro Pacific Corp. | 0.43 | 0.43 | 0.42 | 0.42 | 10,000,000 |
| Prime Media Holdings Inc. | 1.26 | 1.26 | 1.26 | 1.26 | 100,000 |
| Roxas Holdings Inc. | 0.93 | 0.93 | 0.92 | 0.92 | 100,000 |
| SM Investments Corp. | 247 | 249 | 246 | 248 | 1,083,220 |
| Tanduay Holdings Inc. | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3,000 |
| Uniwide Holdings Inc. | 0.245 | 0.25 | 0.235 | 0.235 | 43,010,000 |
| Waterfront Phils. Inc. | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 100,000 |
| **MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING** | | | | | |
| Active Alliance Inc. | 1.8 | 1.94 | 1.8 | 1.82 | 754,000 |
| Metro Alliance Holdings | 0.46 | 0.46 | 0.46 | 0.46 | 20,000 |
| Picop Resources Inc. | 0.125 | 0.13 | 0.125 | 0.125 | 3,200,000 |
| Pryce Corp. | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 400,000 |
| **HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICES** | | | | | |
| Belle Corp. | 1.28 | 1.28 | 1.26 | 1.28 | 3,060,000 |
| Fairmont Holdings Inc. | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 840,000 |
| Leisure & Resorts Corp. | 1.54 | 1.56 | 1.52 | 1.56 | 2,527,000 |
| Manila Jockey Club | 3.05 | 3.2 | 3.05 | 3.2 | 149,000 |
| Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc. | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 0.32 | 560,000 |
| **BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS** | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp.(Pdr) | 15 | 15 | 14.5 | 14.75 | 5,097,400 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series M | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series V | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series W | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 300 |
| **OTHERS** | | | | | |
| Centro Escolar University | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 5,000 |
| **PROPERTY** | | | | | |
| Ayala Land Inc. | 7.6 | 7.7 | 7.6 | 7.6 | 5,763,000 |
| Cityland Development Corp. | 1.52 | 1.54 | 1.4 | 1.42 | 1,285,000 |
| Cebu Holdings Inc. | 0.92 | 0.93 | 0.92 | 0.92 | 450,000 |
| C&P Homes Inc. | 0.28 | 0.28 | 0.28 | 0.28 | 200,000 |
| Cyber Bay Corp. | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 1,300,000 |
| Empire East Land Inc. | 0.43 | 0.44 | 0.43 | 0.43 | 4,070,000 |
| Filinvest Land Inc. | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.38 | 1.4 | 13,159,000 |
| Highlands Prime Inc. | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 150,000 |
| Keppel Phils. Prop. Inc. | 0.57 | 0.57 | 0.57 | 0.57 | 20,000 |
| SM Development Corp. | 1.6 | 1.7 | 1.6 | 1.6 | 154,000 |
| SM Prime Holdings Inc. | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.3 | 7.3 | 7,076,000 |
| **MINING** | | | | | |
| Apex Mining Co., Inc. A | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 270,000 |
| Abra Mining & Industrial | 0.009 | 0.009 | 0.009 | 0.009 | 15,000,000 |
| Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't | 5.1 | 5.1 | 5 | 5 | 461,000 |
| Benguet Corp. B | 25 | 25 | 23.5 | 24 | 6,100 |
| Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A | 0.33 | 0.33 | 0.31 | 0.31 | 560,000 |
| Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co B | 0.34 | 0.34 | 0.32 | 0.33 | 12,980,000 |
| Manila Mining Corp. A | 0.015 | 0.017 | 0.015 | 0.016 | 414,100,000 |
| Manila Mining Corp. B | 0.021 | 0.023 | 0.021 | 0.022 | 458,500,000 |
| Omico Corp. | 0.0075 | 0.0075 | 0.0075 | 0.0075 | 497,000,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. A | 1 | 1 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 3,420,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. B | 1.26 | 1.26 | 1.16 | 1.16 | 3,913,000 |
| Semirara Mining Corp. | 35 | 35.5 | 35 | 35.5 | 78,300 |
| **OIL** | | | | | |
| Imperial Res. | 0.012 | 0.012 | 0.012 | 0.012 | 3,000,000 |
| Interport Res. B | 0.0055 | 0.0055 | 0.0055 | 0.0055 | 6,000,000 |
| Oriental Pet. & Min. A | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 28,000,000 |
| Oriental Pet. & Min. B | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 17,000,000 |
| The Philodrill Corp. A | 0.29 | 0.29 | 0.29 | 0.29 | 100,000 |
| Petroenergy Res. Corp. | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.4 | 2.4 | 109,000 |
| Sinophil Corp. | 0.185 | 0.185 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 10,030,000 |
| Vulcan Ind'l | 0.38 | 0.41 | 0.37 | 0.38 | 4,530,000 |

## CURRENCIES

| April 15, 2005<br>Country | Unit | Euro Equivalent | Dollar Equivalent | Peso Equivalent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United States | Dollar | 0.780457348 | 1.000000 | 54.2520 |
| Japan | Yen | 0.007217 | 0.009247 | 0.5017 |
| United Kingdom | Pound | 1.468587 | 1.881700 | 102.0860 |
| Hong Kong | Dollar | 0.100076 | 0.128228 | 6.9566 |
| Switzerland | Franc | 0.642987 | 0.823859 | 44.6960 |
| Canada | Dollar | 0.628489 | 0.805283 | 43.6882 |
| Singapore | Dollar | 0.471604 | 0.604266 | 32.7826 |
| Australia | Dollar | 0.601833 | 0.771129 | 41.8353 |
| Bahrain | Dinar* | 2.070233 | 2.652590 | 143.9083 |
| Saudi Arabia | Rial | 0.208122 | 0.266667 | 14.4672 |
| Brunei | Dollar | 0.470183 | 0.602446 | 32.6839 |
| Indonesia | Rupiah | 0.000082 | 0.000105 | 0.0057 |
| Thailand | Baht | 0.019657 | 0.025186 | 1.3664 |
| UAE | Dirham | 0.212502 | 0.272279 | 14.7717 |
| Euro | Euro | 1.000000 | 1.281300 | 69.5131 |
| Argentina | Peso | 0.270757 | 0.346921 | 18.8212 |
| Brazil | Real | 0.303526 | 0.388908 | 21.0990 |
| Denmark | Kroner | 0.134182 | 0.171928 | 9.3274 |
| India | Rupee | 0.017884 | 0.022915 | 1.2432 |
| Malaysia | Ringgit | 0.205411 | 0.263193 | 14.2787 |
| Mexico | New Peso | 0.070207 | 0.089956 | 4.8803 |
| New Zealand | Dollar | 0.56302 | 0.721397 | 39.1372 |
| Norway | Kroner | 0.121427 | 0.155584 | 8.4407 |
| Pakistan | Rupee | 0.013144 | 0.016841 | 0.9137 |
| South Africa | Rand | 0.124574 | 0.159617 | 8.6595 |
| Korea | Won | 0.000766 | 0.000981 | 0.0532 |
| Sweden | Kroner | 0.108897 | 0.139530 | 7.5698 |
| Syria | Pound | 0.015035 | 0.019264 | 1.0451 |
| Taiwan | Nt Dollar | 0.024616 | 0.031541 | 1.7112 |
| Venezuela | Bolivar | 0.000364 | 0.000466 | 0.0253 |

# Bargain-hunting seen

From page B1

Benpres Holdings Corp., the flagship company of the Lopez Group, registered consolidated revenues of P3.9 billion in 2004, 22 percent lower than the P5.01 billion in 2003.

Most analysts said this was a good time to start picking up stocks.

"Investors are likely to remain sidelined until more positive developments filter into the market. They will also keep a close watch on whether the final version of the VAT bill (will be) passed by April 30. However, a watered down version of the VAT bill may not raise the needed revenues and will weigh on market sentiment. Outlook on interest rates may also improve if the VAT bill is passed by Congress," BPI Trade said. *Elizabeth L. Sanchez*

# Japan firm seeks site for $100-M project

By Ronnel W. Domingo

JAPAN'S biggest healthcare service company is considering other possible sites for its planned $100-million medical tourism complex, as its previous choice at the Manila Bay reclamation area proved unsuitable for the project.

Trade Secretary Juan B. Santos said in a press briefing that Manila Bay might be "too expensive" for Tokyo-based Tokushukai Medical Corp.'s project.

"We are instead suggesting and offering to them alternative areas in other parts of the country such as Alabang in Muntinlupa City, the Subic freeport in Zambales and Clark Field in Pampanga," he said.

Santos arrived last week from a working visit to Japan, where he met with Tokushukai officials.

In February, then Trade Secretary Cesar V. Purisima said the construction of the Tokushukai project was expected to start on April 15.

Purisima said the realization of the project could pave the way for medical economic zones in the country to flourish.

He said it would be good for the country to develop the medical and retirement services sector considering the rapid aging of the population in developed countries, which put pressure on the cost of health services there.

Earlier, Teodorico C. Taguinod, general manager and chief executive of the Philippine Reclamation Authority (which owns the original project site), said in an interview last month that reclaimed lands were off limits to foreigners.

Tokushukai officials were very keen on getting hold of five hectares of the PRA property, but the property had to be reclassified as a private land if it would be used for the Japanese firm's project, or the project must be done through a joint venture with a local partner, Taguinod said.

But Tokushukai, operator of Japan's largest chain of hospitals, was not interested in a joint venture, he added.

The company plans to build a 1,000-bed hospital as its main facility here, with complementary units such as a nursing school and a retirement facility.

The project would be Tokushukai's biggest hospital as its 47 hospitals in Japan have between 190 beds and 600 beds only.

Tokushukai sent a team to the country late last year after it signed with the Department of Trade and Industry in October a memorandum of understanding on the proposed project.

Under the agreement, the hospital would be called Benigno Aquino Memorial Hospital and would make quality medical care available to local and foreign patients, particularly Japanese expatriates and retirees staying in the Philippines.

# Transco auction deferred anew

From page B5

perusal and to potential bidders for their comments.

He said that, up to now, none of the prospective investors had given any feedback on the draft.

Four to five entities are expected to join the bidding for the 25-year Transco concession.

When the government offered the contract for negotiations, four consortia expressed strong interest in operating and maintaining the country's nationwide power grid. These same entities are seen participating in the public bidding.

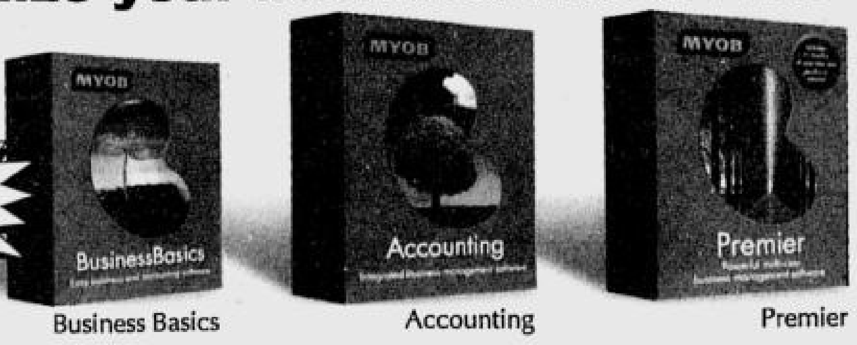
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS

AND CALL

(632) 448-5128 to 34

Organize your business like a PRO

For as low as P5,995.00 for Business Basics



Business Basics   Accounting   Premier

An Award-winning business management and accounting software solution for all your accounting needs that lets you:

- Automate repetitive accounting tasks for increased productivity
- Monitor costs and balance financial statements at half the time
- Do away with the burden of day-to-day administration
- Empower your business and workforce to achieve success

Now's your chance to Mind Your Own Business with MYOB!

*We are looking for interested Nationwide Business Partners for MYOB products. Call us now!*

Distributed by:
BCS Systems & Technology, Inc.
G/F H&M Building, 13-15 Linaw Street, Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City, Philippines
Phone: (632) 448-5128 to 34   Fax: (632) 712-6446   Email: myob@bcssti.com

Sign up now for a Free Trial Version or attend our Free Advantage Workshop! Just call (632) 448-5128 to 34 or fax this form to (632) 712 6446.

Name:
Address:
Tel. No.:   Fax No.:   Mobile No.:
Email Address:   Occupation:   Company Name:
Office Address:
Office Tel. No.:   Office Fax No.:

MYOB
Mind Your Own Business. Smarter.
www.myob.com

8 KEYS TO YOUR DIFFERENT INTERESTS

SATURDAY
STYLE
Do you celebrate Valen
INQUIRER Badminton
ELAN
A change of heart
INQUIRER Golf Monthly
Oldies but Goodies
INQUIRER
Sweetheart Season
Junior INQUIRER
JOB Market
We want YOU!
eReps
RECRUITMENT

Only from PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Canon
Delighting You Always

COPY.
PRINT.
SCAN.
FAX*.
WATCH & SWAP!

imageCLASS MF5630
imageCLASS MF5650

FREE wristwatch for every purchase of the IC MF5630 or IC MF5650!

*Enjoy trade-in discounts and get a free Limited Edition imageCLASS wristwatch when you buy a Canon IC MF5630 or IC MF5650.*

For small or home office business, these printers give you a host of value-added, convenient features with its printing, copying, scanning and faxing capabilities. What's more, you can get it at a special price if you trade in your old Printers, Fax Machines, Scanners and Copiers!

**Mechanics:**

1- Customers get the Limited Edition imageCLASS wristwatch for free, for every purchase of either the IC MF5630 or the IC MF5650.
2- Customers can also get trade-in discounts if they bring their old printers, fax machines, scanners and copiers.
3- List of Canon items eligible for trade-in with trade-in amount (items should be in good, working condition):
   - Laser Printer - P2,000
   - Laser Fax - P2,000
   - Inkjet Printer - P800
   - Flatbed Scanner - P800
   - Thermal Fax - P1,000
   - Low-end Copier - P3,000

*Call or hurry to your nearest Canon branch or dealer nationwide!*

*Fax function available only in IC MF5650

Insist on an original warranty issued by Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

Promo Duration: February 21 to April 30, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0923 Series of 2005

South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:
Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 • www.canon-asia.com
Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City
Tel.: 812-6047 (local 130 or 131) • Fax: 894-4174 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

Branch Offices:
CMP Cebu Door 10, 1P & 20 Free Star Arcade, Hernan Cortes St., Subangdaku, Mandaue City Tels (032) 345-3080, (032) 345-3821 Fax. (032) 344-6776

CMP-Davao 301 E. Palma Gil St., Bo. Obrero, Davao City Tel. (082) 277-4920 Fax (082) 222-3392

CMP-La Union Ground Floor, M. Peralta Bldg., Quezon Ave., Sevilla Norte, San Fernando City, La Union Tels: (072) 242-4587, (072) 242-0440

CMP-Legaspi Door 7 & 8 Ground Floor CEA Bldg., Lapu-Lapu St., Legaspi City Tels (052) 480-0331, (052) 820-2083 Fax (052) 820-2083, (052) 214-3693

CMP-Pampanga Pistahan Bldg., McArthur Highway, Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga Tel (045) 961-6490

I.T. DISTRIBUTOR
Uptrek Information Systems, Inc., Ortigas Tel (632) 687-7221 / 687-7223

Master Corporate Reseller
Elite Machine (Araneta Ave., Q.C.) Tels (632) 411-1194 / 411-0089 / 711-0174 (E. Rodriguez) Tels. 410-8609 / 418-8337

| | |
|---|---|
| **Master Retailer** | |
| QUEZON CITY Compex International | Tel 711-0288 |
| SM MEGAMALL Compex SM Megamall | Tels 633 1861 to 62 |
| MAKATI Compex Park Square | Tel 892-8382 to 84 |
| ERMITA Compex Robinsons Ermita | Tels 528-4337 / 536-8027 |
| DAVAO EMCOR Davao | Tels (082) 225-0712 / 305-0482 |
| CEBU EMCOR Cebu | Tels (032) 346-2280 / 346-2280 |
| **VAR CBAP** | |
| **MAKATI** | |
| Ace Philippines, Inc. | Tels. 810-4942 / 810-5003 |
| Superlane Enterprise | Tel 899-0942 |
| Microgold Info Solution & Product | Tels. 894-7570 / 894-1571 / 820-2800 |
| Canon D-Zone | Tel 752 7361 |
| Copystar | Tel. 890-7103 to 04 |
| **MANILA** | |
| Copytrade | Tel 749-8155 |
| F.A. Obena Marketing | Tel 256-0344 |
| Solid Business Machine | Tel 241-4094 |
| Ambassador Appliances | Tels 241-3872 / 242-9487 |
| Officeman Inc | Tel 245-1217 to 18 |
| Advance Solution, Inc. | Tels. 526-4067 / 526-4130 / 526-3935 |
| Nextwave | Tel 245-7581 |
| Faxcable | Tel 528-3885 |
| **ORTIGAS** | |
| Compuware | Tels 722-0783 / 722-0221 |
| Integra | Tels. 721-5250 / 721-9346 to 48 |
| Pacific Office Machines | Tel 722-6970 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **QUEZON CITY NORTH EDSA** | |
| PC Chain | Tel 925-2228 |
| Prodata | Tel 723-1900 |
| Silicon Valley | Tels. 371-6944 / 371-5611 |
| Fe-Rai Marketing | Tels. 929-8144 / 929-1082 |
| Mitoni Business Ventures | Tel 995-0296 |
| LAGUNA VYP MSC Data Exchange | Tel 520-6007 |
| BATANGAS Cagnet Computer | Tels (043) 921-1605 / 921-1650 |
| **VAR DEALERS** | |
| MANDALUYONG Sixth Generation | Tels 578-8960 / 533-3517 |
| MANILA Microsmith | Tels. 564-5555 / 564-5558 |
| **ORTIGAS** | |
| Award Microtechnologies Inc | Tels 632-9686 / 632-9873 |
| Complexx (Robinsons Galleria) | Tels. 632-9896 / 632-9497 |
| **QUEZON CITY** | |
| PC Evotech | Tels 433-6849 / 928-3536 / 434-0791 |
| PC Klinik | Tel 712-4675 |
| Techpoint | Tel 721-9949 |
| PC Gilmore | Tels 410-1210 / 721-3496 / 725-0288 |
| PC Domain | Tels. 937-6724 / 937-6229 |
| Dreamchum (2) The PC Specialist | Tel 410-2733 |
| **SAN JUAN** | |
| Alta Servio Company, Inc. / ASCI | Tels. 725-6041 / 700-1357 / 725-6041 / 722-4726 |
| SM MEGAMALL Brochers Computer | Tels 634 1290 / 633 2172 |
| SM NORTH Dataview | Tels 925-4985 / 926-9617 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **PROVINCIAL DEALERS** | |
| ABRA CAB Copy Center | Tel (074) 652-4421 |
| BATAAN Bence Trading | Tel (047) 237 2151 |
| CABANATUAN Cagayan Valley Trading | Tel (044) 463 1220 |
| CLARK Comclark Network & Technology Corp. | Tel (045) 322-0892 |
| **DAGUPAN** | |
| Bitstop Computers | Tels (075) 522-5089 / 522-0092 |
| Joycomp Comp | Tel (075) 523-4969 |
| IRIGA Lucky Grocery | Tels (054) 299 2711 / 655 1122 |
| ISABELA Proticom Ent. | Tels (078) 652-0328 / 634-6369 |
| **LA UNION** | |
| BLM Marketing | Tel (072) 888-0142 |
| Infoplus Comp | Tel (072) 242-4947 |
| **LAOAG** | |
| DOC Xis Comp | Tel (077) 771-1175 |
| Northpoint Comp | Tels (077) 772-0838 / 770-8611 |
| **LEGAZPI** | |
| Lucky Educational Supply | Tels (052) 480-7481 / 480-7687 |
| PS Sia Computer Center | Tels (052) 480-1460 / (0917) 558-3317 |
| MASBATE Cyber Step Computer | Tel (0917) 416-0700 |
| NAGA JGx Computer Solutions | Tels (052) 473 4259 / 811 7717 |
| OLONGAPO ICP Trading | Tel (0917) 900-3187 |
| PAMPANGA Saver's Office Automation | Tels (045) 963-4908 / 888-1720 |
| TARLAC Ace Com | Tels (045) 982 1855 / 982 1924 |
| TUGUEGARAO Northpole Ent. | Tel (078) 880-5101 |
| **VIGAN** | |
| Mikee Dept. Store | Tel (077) 722 1040 |
| Planet Earth | Tels (077) 722-7000 / 722-8000 |

# G7 officials say world can adapt to higher oil

WASHINGTON—The world must adjust to persistently high energy prices, according to finance chiefs from rich nations who met on Friday amid financial market unease about the global expansion's durability.

Expectations were modest for a meeting of Group of Seven finance ministers and central bankers that began over dinner on Friday night in the face of a stubbornly hard-to-advance agenda from Chinese currency reform to a debt relief package.

Energy costs were a key topic for talks that resume Saturday morning while a stepped-up Bush administration campaign to get China to scrap its currency's tight tie to the US dollar would be an important sub-text.

A British Treasury official said pricey oil would "dominate" the talks. "It is one of the biggest risks to the economic outlook," the official said.

Germany's Finance Minister Hans Eichel agreed, saying the global economic situation looked worse than "half a year ago."

But US Treasury Secretary John Snow told Bloomberg television the G7 was preparing for an era of more costly energy and could handle recent rises that topped $58 a barrel before falling back to around $50.

"These prices are out of line and I'm confident there will be adaptations to these prices, both in terms of the supply side and the demand side," Snow said.

Bank of Italy Governor Antonio Fazio took comfort from the fact that the G7's biggest economy, the United States, seemed on solid ground but declined comment on Italy's performance.

European G7 sources and Japanese officials agreed that ministers would talk about readying the world to live with permanently costlier energy.

There was palpable concern in financial markets as the G7 members gathered. Economic worries sent the Dow Jones industrial average skidding 191.24 points to end at 10,087.51.

Bank of Japan Governor Toshihiko Fukui said economies need to get used to costlier oil.

The G7 is made up of the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

Not present but on everyone's minds was China—by some measures already the second-largest economy in the world—since the G7 badly wants Beijing to modify its currency regime to curb the huge trade deficit in the United States.

The Bush administration, after two years of trying to persuade China to loosen the tie between its yuan and the declining dollar, has stepped up its rhetoric in the face of rising Congressional ire over the issue.

US manufacturers claim China's currency may be as much as 40 percent undervalued, lending a huge trade advantage.

Snow said the Bush administration feels China has had ample time to beef up its banking sector to withstand a floating currency.

"They're there now," Snow said. "They've made enormous strides in fixing the financial infrastructure ... it's time for the Chinese to move to flexible currency."

He echoed that message in bilateral meetings with France and Japan, a senior Treasury official said.

Japan's Finance Minister, Sadakazu Tanigaki, sounded a slightly more cautious note as Tokyo does not want any precipitous action that could destabilize its Asian neighbor.

"It is not about simply pressuring China," Tanigaki said, adding that any discussion on the yuan should be broader-based.

G7 sources say the closing communique Saturday morning will have the usual call for currency flexibility, aimed chiefly at China.

Ministers also will likely urge oil producers to raise output and push anew for more transparency, or information about supplies and prices, in energy markets.

The G7 sessions lead into spring meetings of the 184-nation International Monetary Fund and its sister lending institution, the World Bank, on Saturday and Sunday. *Reuters*

# *IBM shakes confidence in technology growth*

NEW YORK—Shares of IBM sank 8 percent on Friday, to a two-year low, wiping out more than $10 billion in market capitalization, after reporting disappointing quarterly results that shook confidence in growth prospects of the tech sector.

The stock fell $6.64 to $77, single-handedly dragging the Dow into negative territory. Big Blue was the worst-performing stock among the Dow 30 companies and the third-largest net loser on the New York Stock Exchange.

"The smart money is moving out of technology in general," said Mark Herskovitz, who manages $2 billion assets under Dreyfus Premier Technology Growth fund and does not own IBM shares. "People in this environment are looking for reasons to sell."

Hardware companies led the drop. Network computer maker Sun Microsystems Inc. fell 8.3 percent after it missed expectations. Hewlett-Packard fell 3.5 percent and PC maker Gateway slipped 5.1 percent.

"Technology spending will be flat if not decreasing," Ian Campbell, chief executive of Wellesley, Massachusetts-based firm NucleusResearch which studies investment returns. "The need to upgrade hardware has diminished."

IBM blamed economic weakness in Europe and problems closing short-term services contracts in the last two weeks of March for the shortfall.

Among the services companies reporting in the next few weeks, Computer Sciences Corp. could have the most exposure to the weakness because it derives much revenue from consulting and systems integration and a quarter of its revenue is from Europe, said Merrill Lynch analyst Gregory Smith.

Affiliated Computer Services has the least exposure, Smith said, because about 90 percent of ACS' revenue is recurring and more than 95 percent of total revenue is derived from the United States.

CSC fell 4.4 percent and ACS slid 2.1 percent. EDS, which recently won a $4 billion contract from Europe, fell 3 percent. Accenture was down just 1 percent as it has recently reported earnings.

"We believe IT and software spending growth is likely to remain sluggish," Rick Sherlund, Goldman Sachs analyst, said.

"We will continue to see more pronounced seasonal patterns in vendors' results as customers hold off spending until later in the year."

Big Blue's software unit fared slightly better than expected, with growth in database and middleware more than offsetting sluggish sales of mainframe software, which manages corporate systems.

This does not bode well for system management players such as Computer Associates, BMC Software and Compuware. *Reuters*

# Wall St. awaits profit, inflation data

NEW YORK—Earnings from big companies like Intel Corp. and Pfizer Inc., as well as key inflation reports, will help determine whether US stocks will continue to skid lower or bounce back this week.

Monday kicks off one of the heaviest weeks of the quarterly earnings season and some of the other companies slated to report include General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co., Internet companies eBay Inc. and Yahoo Inc., financial heavyweight Merrill Lynch & Co. and soft-drink giant Coca-Cola Co.

"Earnings are starting to dominate the market," Rick Meckler, president of investment firm LibertyView Capital Management, said on Friday. "The bigger names are going to set the tone for their sectors."

Last week, the blue-chip Dow Jones industrial average suffered its worst weekly decline since March 2003—down 3.57 percent.

The broad Standard & Poor's 500 Index—down 3.27 percent—and the tech-laced Nasdaq Composite Index—off 4.56 percent—had their biggest weekly drops since August 2004.

On Friday, all three stock indexes ended at fresh lows for the year and their lowest closes in 5 1/2 months. The sell-off was driven by disappointing results from International Business Machines Corp., released after Thursday's closing bell.

Two reports published this week by the Commerce Department proved to be a double whammy for rosier growth predictions in the world's largest economy.

First, the US government said on Tuesday the trade deficit ballooned to a new record in February, and then on Wednesday, retail sales for March proved much weaker than analysts had foreseen.

Those reports cast more doubt on the health of the US economy, which will place added importance on the financial outlooks that companies give next week.

"Whenever you reach uncertainty about whether the economy is slowing down, guidance takes on added importance," said Anthony Chan, managing director and senior economist of J.P. Morgan Asset Management.

For example, Apple Computer Inc. reported better-than-expected quarterly earnings on Wednesday.

But its outlook fell short of some investors' very high expectations and helped send stocks tumbling lower the next day.

"I think (the upcoming) earnings are going to be OK—I don't think they will knock the socks off people—but the forecast is what gets ugly," said Greg Church, founder and chief investment officer at Church Capital Management.

Investors will scour data on consumer prices and producer prices for any signs of inflation, strategists said.

The US Producer Price Index for March is due on Tuesday, and economists expect a 0.2 percent gain for the core figure that excludes food and energy.

The Consumer Price Index for March is due on Wednesday, with a rise of 0.2 percent expected for that core figure, according to economists polled by Reuters.

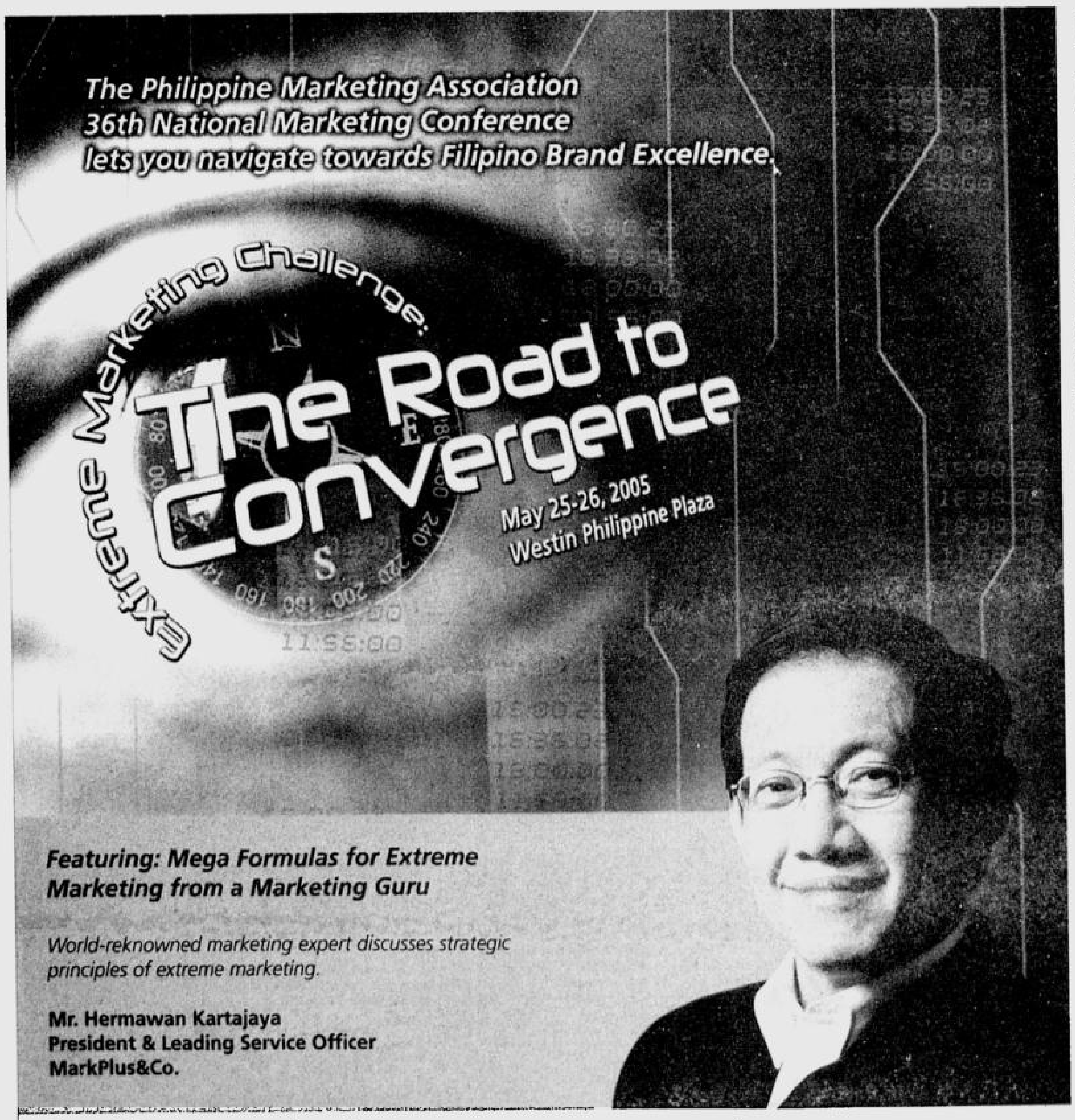
"This week, what will really capture the attention of investors will be the monthly inflation reports," J.P. Morgan's Chan said.

"There is still some lingering fear of inflation, even though equity market investors have diversified their fears somewhat and are also now looking at the possibility that the economy is not doing as well."

With the health of the US economy in focus, investors are likely to watch the leading economic indicators for March, which are due on Thursday, Chan said.

Other economic data on tap this week includes March housing starts on Tuesday.

Investors will watch them to see if higher interest rates are dampening consumers' voracious appetite for real estate, strategists said. *Reuters*



The Philippine Marketing Association
36th National Marketing Conference
lets you navigate towards Filipino Brand Excellence.
Extreme Marketing Challenge:
The Road to Convergence
May 25-26, 2005
Westin Philippine Plaza

**Featuring: Mega Formulas for Extreme Marketing from a Marketing Guru**

*World-reknowned marketing expert discusses strategic principles of extreme marketing.*

**Mr. Hermawan Kartajaya**
**President & Leading Service Officer**
**MarkPlus&Co.**

***Hurry! Register now to get our EARLY BIRD RATES!***

For details such as full programme list of topics & speakers and rates:

Tel. Nos.: 849-6936; 634-4890; 633-9470; 633-6035
Telefax: 636-1451; 634-5722 (ATTN: ROSE SANTOS)
Cell: 0916-714-1713
Email: sarahpv@pldtdsl.net
pma@philonline.com

EURO RSCG MANILA
WMA
Asia Pacific Marketing Federation
PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION
MARKETING CONVERGENCE

# British car maker MG Rover shuts down

LONDON—Failed British car maker MG Rover was once the envy of the global automaking industry, producing classic brands including Jaguar, the Mini and MGB sports car, but it collapsed amid flagging sales after years of changing hands.

Century-old Rover, in bankruptcy since a week ago, was rocked Friday by news that proposed Chinese partner Shanghai Automotive Industrial Corp. (SAIC) had ended any chance of a tie-up.

Consequently, administrators said that over 80 percent, or 5,000, of Rover's 6,100-strong workforce at its plant in Longbridge, central England, would be axed and the factory "mothballed".

Those not made redundant would help to finish producing about 1,000 more of MG Rover's three remaining models, administrators said.

"Sadly, Rover just could not get into profitability and was unable to launch its new medium-sized car that was vital to its future and which could have rescued its finances," said professor Garel Rhys of the Cardiff University Business School.

Born in 1904, Rover was bought by German luxury car maker BMW 90 years later, which off-loaded the distressed group in 2000 to current owners Phoenix Venture Holdings.

Phoenix, led by John Towers, purchased the company for the nominal sum of 10 pounds with the company becoming known as MG Rover, incorporating Rover's popular MG sports car brand.

Following the carmaker's collapse on April 8, Phoenix said it was a "desperately sad" day for everyone involved in the company, adding: "Our hearts go out to all of our employees, their families and the local community at this terrible time."

Back in May 2000, Phoenix had fended off the challenge of British venture capital group Alchemy Partners, which had planned to retain only 2,000 workers. The dismayed Labor government under Prime Minister Tony Blair backed Phoenix.

But Phoenix has come under fire for allegedly stripping Rover's assets to the bone, while the longest-serving Rover workers were set to get less than 4,000 pounds (5,860 euros, $7,570) redundancy money.

In 2000, Alchemy was offering workers far higher sums—some suggest as much as 50,000 pounds—to leave the payroll.

After beginning production in Coventry, central England, Rover produced its first car in 1904 and the Longbridge factory in nearby Birmingham was set up a year later.

By 1946, the group's one millionth car had rolled off the production line.

But the public's appetite for MG Rover cars has long been on the wane.

Shortly before the end-of-year holidays last year, Phoenix announced that 2004 sales would be below 120,000 units—the worst result for almost a decade, amid intense competition from foreign-owned carmakers.

And in March this year, the firm sold just 12,545 cars—down by almost 17 percent on the same month of 2004.

The group became the British Motor Corp. in 1952, and launched the Mini motor car seven years later, before acquiring luxury marque Jaguar in 1966.

It became Leyland Motor Co. in 1967 and British Leyland a year later.

Beset with financial problems, British Leyland was kept afloat thanks to heavy cash injections from the Labor government during the mid-1970s.

But under Conservative Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher it was dismantled.

Jaguar was sold to Ford, Leyland was offloaded to Volvo, and the remainder of the group was bought by British Aerospace in 1986.

Other successful Rover cars have been the Rover 200 series and off-road Land Rover vehicle. *AFP*

# Emerging nations moving away from IMF, WB

WASHINGTON—If developing nations are not given more say in global financial institutions, they will leave the fold of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, a top Group of 24 official said on Friday.

"The current system of governance is completely out of line with economic realities," Ariel Buira, director of the G24 secretariat, told a news conference.

"What is happening is that many countries are now moving away from these institutions."

Finance chiefs from the Group of 24 emerging nations also complained the United States did not consult them on the choice of Paul Wolfowitz as new World Bank president.

The ministers, gathering on the eve of IMF and World Bank spring meetings in Washington, said representation in the lenders' hierarchy did not accurately represent the growing stake of emerging markets in the global economy.

"Ministers stress the need for concrete actions to reduce the democratic deficit and enhance the voice and participation of developing countries in decision-making at the IMF and World Bank," the G24, which includes countries from Latin America, Asia and Africa, said in a communique after the meeting.

Emerging-market countries have long sought a change in the voting rights of the institutions and question why the IMF head is always a European and the World Bank head an American.

Buira said many countries in Asia that borrowed from the IMF during the crises of the late 1990s were unhappy with the loan conditions forced onto them by the fund and are keen to avoid dealing with the lender again on those terms.

He said one of the reasons Asian economies had accumulated vast foreign exchange reserves in recent years was to enable them to cope with future crises independently.

"We want a multilateral system for international monetary cooperation in which everybody is represented in a fair and open way," Buira said.

"This in the end will come to pass because otherwise institutions will become irrelevant, and it took a lot of effort to create them, and we do not want to destroy them."

G24 chairman Paul Toungui said under-representation of developing nations in the lenders undermined their legitimacy and effectiveness.

"Ministers hope that concrete measures will be taken swiftly to expand the voice of developing countries as well as their participation in the decision-making process," Toungui, who is also Gabon's finance minister, told the briefing.

Despite promises by the Bush administration that it would consult widely in its search for a new World Bank president, Toungui said the United States had not asked everyone.

*Reuters*

It's not
just
the size.

It's about performance.

We've taken all the powerful features that make big projectors rock and packed it into the compact, lightweight InFocus LP70+. Small and sleek, it fits your traveling lifestyle to a T. Change rooms, change audiences, change cities. The LP70+ is designed to impress - wherever you take it.

DLP Technology • XGA (1024 X 768) • 1400 ANSI Lumens • Lightweight (1.1 kg) • 4000 lamp hours

LP70+

For a free demo of this and/or other models, call 723-0601 or visit www.infocus.com

InFocus®
The Worldwide Leader in Digital Projection

Exclusively distributed by:
better solutions
AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
455 Gen. Bautista St., San Juan, Metro Manila
url: www.ati.com.ph e-mail: inquire@ati.com.ph
Fax: 723-7951

InFocus and X1 are registered trademarks of InFocus Corporation. DLP™ is a trademark of Texas Instruments.

# Global PC shipments up 10% in Q1

SAN FRANCISCO—The worldwide personal computer market grew more than 10 percent in the first quarter, fueled by strong growth in Europe and healthy shipments of notebook PCs, market research firms said on Friday.

Global PC shipments rose 10.9 percent to 46.1 million in the quarter, about one percent above forecast, IDC said. Rival Gartner said shipments rose 10.3 percent to 50.4 million.

The two firms report varying numbers because of different methodologies used in their surveys.

"First-quarter results demonstrate that demand remains healthy going into the new year," said IDC analyst Loren Loverde, despite weakness in quarterly results from International Business Machines Corp. that raised concerns about overall technology spending.

Stronger-than-expected growth in Europe, the Middle East and Africa made up for a shortfall in the US market, while on a worldwide basis, corporate demand was weaker than expected, said Gartner analyst Charles Smulders.

The weak dollar helped boost the PC market in Europe, IDC said.

Dell Inc. retained its position as the world's largest seller of personal computers in the first quarter, expanding its lead with global growth of more than 13 percent year over year in the period, Framingham, Massachusetts-based IDC said.

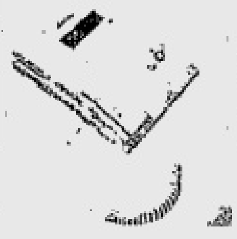
Hewlett-Packard Co., the No. 2 PC maker, had a solid quarter, with growth in line with the overall market growth rate, Gartner and IDC said.

Despite disappointing results for most vendors in the US market, Gartner said Apple Computer Inc. moved into the fifth position in the US market, ahead of Toshiba.

*Reuters*

No More IDD!

Internet Calling is never been easier, purchase one pair of IP Phones, you and your loved one can enjoy talking on the internet, no minute charge!

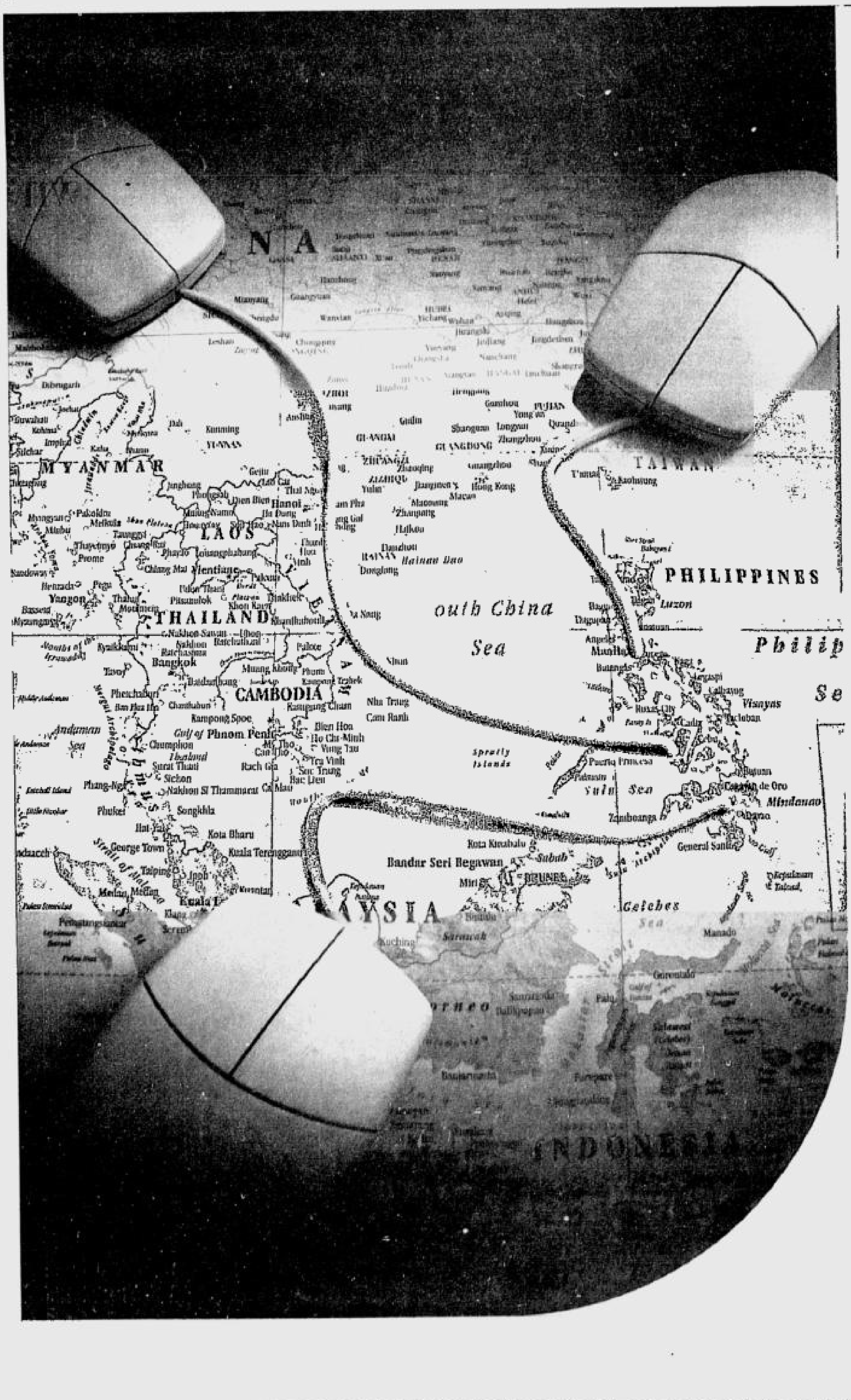


- Easy Installation
- Call To Any Phone
- Call To Anywhere
- Good Voice Quality
- Money Back Guarantee#

# obtain a full refund of the IP Phone if you return the phone to us within 7 days after installation. used minute charge will not be refunded.

**Want to know more?**
**Call our distributors:**
Telecom Dimension Inc (02)7505698 to 99
Advance Microsystem (02) 6354181
10th Story (02) 7412262 Gerry

Phone and service are provided by Asia On Net Limited +852 2284 4181



Your loved ones abroad can now buy a PC for you at www.pldtonline.com!

PASALUBONG PC ONLINE

Have the power to do more when you get a desktop PC powered by an Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor with HT Technology. Email your relatives abroad while listening to music or upload digital photos as you watch videos, all at the same time.

Other desktop PCs and notebooks with Intel processors are also available!

1. Log on to www.pldtonline.com
2. Choose from the list of featured models with Intel processors.
3. Pay securely through PLDT's Online Payment System.
4. Print out the acknowledgement letter.
5. Present acknowledgement letter and proof of identification (company or school ID, passport, driver's license, etc.) to any of our genuine dealers here in the Philippines to claim the purchased model.

**SPECIFICATIONS**
- Intel® Pentium® 4 Processor with HT Technology 3.0 GHz
- 800 MHz FSB / 1MB Cache
- Intel® Desktop Board 848/865GVHZ
- 512MB Dual Channel DDR333 Memory
- DVD/CDRW combo drive
- 80Gb 7200rpm HDD
- 56K Modem
- 17" CRT Monitor

P 41,000.00

**Participating Genuine Intel Dealers: PC Express, Silicon Valley, Thinking Tools, Villman**

Look for systems with the Intel Pentium 4 Processor with HT Technology logo which your system vendor has verified utilize Hyper-Threading Technology. Performance will vary depending on the specific hardware and software you use. See www.intel.com/info/hyperthreading/for information. © 2005 Intel Corporation. Intel, Pentium and the Intel Inside logo are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. Other names and brands may be the property of their respective owners. All rights reserved.

# SEE drive launches new Isuzu campaign

ISUZU Philippines Corp (IPC) brings in the "Isuzu SEE Technology" campaign-the new Isuzu global thrust that aims to create hype on the superiority of Isuzu's Direct Injection diesel engines and the drive for safety, economy, and environment-friendliness (SEE).

Last March 19, IPC staged one of the four activities under the SEE Technology campaign-the fuel economy run "I SEE Drive". A total of 36 participating Isuzu vehicles, 16 units of D-Max 4x2 M/T and 20 units of Crosswind Sportivo M/T, vied to achieve the best fuel efficiency records using strategies in time precision and economy driving. During the pre-event briefing, economy driving tips, mechanics, and other competition guidelines were highlighted. The participants must be able to finish with the lowest amount of fuel consumed and with the least margin to the time allotted by IPC. Judging was made on a 50-50 basis---half for the fuel efficiency and the other half pertaining to the travel point system that was measured on four-time checkpoints installed along the route.

IPC executive vice president Kazuhiko Sho and service department head Toshiyuki Watanabe flagged off the competing dealer executives and their valued customers-driver/navigator tandem-at 7:34 a.m. in Isuzu Pampanga. Participants traveled a total distance of 235.5 kilometers and culminated at the Caltex station in Candelaria, Quezon to determine the exact amount of fuel consumed.

The team of customer Carlos Jericho Garcia and Isuzu Bulacan's Joel Cervania led the D-Max category with 172 points (18.79 km/liter in 4 hours and 17 minutes). For the Sportivo category, the duo of customer Virgilio Veneracion and Isuzu Bulacan's Alfredo Manialong Jr achieved 159 points (17.50 km/liter in 4:24).

D-Max second place winners were customer Agripino Katigbak and Isuzu Batangas' Paul Erazo, while customer Crispin Amancio and Isuzu Edsa's Edmundo Osea ranked third.

Sportivo second place winners were customer Reggel Aquino and Isuzu San Pablo's Buen Manzanero, while customer Eric Sulfelix and Isuzu Cabanatuan's Lamberto Reyes positioned third.

IPC also bestowed special awards for the best fuel efficiency ratings in both categories. D-Max second place winners Katigbak and Erazo bagged the recognition with 19.78 km/liter while Isuzu Davao executive Melissa Liu and customer Jessica Toehio got the award for the Sportivo class with their record of 19.83 km/liter.

After the fuel economy run, the participants excitedly headed to the scenic Virgin Beach Resort for the awarding rites. First place winning teams received P50,000 cash; second place winning teams with P30,000; and third place winning teams with P20,000. All winners accepted trophies plus Isuzu and Caltex premium items.

Other activities under the I SEE Technology campaign are: I-SEE Technology Stickering Campaign at Caltex stations (for the months of March to April)-with instant freebies to motorists who'll put the exclusive "I SEE Technology" bumper sticker on their vehicles and P1,000 cash each plus Isuzu/Caltex premium items for the lucky spotted winners on scheduled dates. A P30,000 cash prize await the 2 winners on the last spotting day scheduled on April 30. The I-SEE Mall Tour-SEE Technology campaign display at major Metro Manila malls from March to May features a cut-up D-Max plus roster of activities and the latest in Isuzu's product lineup. I-SEE Summer Cheering Competition-Hunt for the best Isuzu SEE Technology cheerleading stunt with the Inter-Collegiate Cheerleading competition from 17 leading Metro Manila universities to compete and bid for the P100,000 pot money (for the best SEE tech cheer).

SEE drive is a partnership between IPC and Caltex Philippines Inc (Power Diesel/Delo Sports).

For other details on the campaign, visit authorized Isuzu dealerships nationwide. In Metro Manila, dealerships can be found in Edsa Balintawak, Quezon Avenue, Commonwealth, Pasig, Manila, Makati and Alabang. In the provinces, dealerships are located in Isabela, Pangasinan, Cabanatuan, Pampanga, Bulacan, Cavite, Batangas, San Pablo, Bacolod, Mandaue, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro and Davao.

IPC EXECUTIVES and dealer principals pose with customer Ronald Goseco (3rd from left) of Globe Telecom at Isuzu Pampanga dealership during I SEE Drive: (from left) Arthur Balmadrid, IPC vice president for corporate business; Leo Dolendo, Isuzu Pasig branch manager; Milton Liu, Isuzu Davao president; D. Edgard Cabangon, Gencars Inc president; Kazuhiko Sho, IPC executive vice president; Carlos Reyes, Isuzu Automotive Dealership Inc general manager; Timmy Naval, IPC public relations manager; and Mendel Noche, Gencars Inc executive vice president.

## *Sikad Cebu kicks off CBM's May tourism sports festivities*

THE CEBU Chamber of Commerce and Industry ushers in summer festivities with Sikad Cebu 2005 Mountain Bike Festival.

The two-day outdoor event, slated on May 7 and 8, will feature four racing competitions supported by the Cebu City Sports Commission.

May 7 competitions will start off at 7 a.m. with the Mountain Cross country around the IT park, followed by a Road Bike Criterium at 1 p.m. The 2nd day also kicks off at 7 a.m. with the Road Bike Climb from IT Park to Barangay Taptap (Class A) and Ayala Heights (Class B). At 1 p.m., the exciting Mt. Bike Criterium and Obstacle Course at the IT Park will be held.

These exciting races will be held around the Asiatown IT Park in Apas to Busay with a total of P300,000 worth of prizes.

Cycling enthusiasts will also enjoy various exhibit showcases, free bike tune-ups and bike-fitting and safety tips.

Organizers expect 300 to 500 bikers to join the event. Attending the races are members of major bike clubs and top riders in the country, including members of the Philippine national team.

Spectators can also join in on the family-oriented affair with free bike rides, selling booths, trade exhibits, bicycle shows and exhibitions.

Interested participants may register at Bike Hub in Banilad, Cebu (344-0911) or through the Cebu Chamber of Commerce & Industry at (032) 232-1421 to 24 (Rhea or Chato) and through ASAP Advertising at (032) 232-8519 (Bernadine).

SIKAD
CEBU
BIKE FESTIVAL

SHOWN at the Cebu Sikad 2005 press conference are, from left, Perl Jacalan, chair of CBM Publicity and Promotions, Jonathan Guardo, chair of the Cebu City Sports Commission, Robert Go, president of the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Meyrick Jacalan, chair of Sikad Cebu 2005, and Jose Ontinilla Jr of Bike Hub, Sikad Cebu's official bike shop.

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City

## NOTICE OF SALE THRU AUCTION

The National Food Authority (NFA) wishes to announce to all interested Farmer's Organizations (FO's), Retailers and other interested NFA licensed wholesalers/millers that NFA will be accepting sealed offers for the Sale thru Auction of 50,000 MT or (1.0-Million bags) 15% brokens Vietnam Rice as follows:

| COVERAGE | VOLUME (IN BGS) | INDICATIVE PRICE Ex Vessel | Ex-Warehouse |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mindanao | 250,000 | P970.00/bag | P1,010/bag |
| Visayas | 250,000 | P970.00/bag | P1,010/bag |
| Luzon | 500,000 | P970.00/bag | P1,010/bag |

The Pre-auction Conference and Auction Proper shall be held at 10:00 a.m. in the following dates or until the whole volume for auction has been sold/exhausted:

| Venue | Contact Person | Pre-Auction Conference | Auction Proper |
|---|---|---|---|
| NFA Davao Office<br>Sta Ana Ave., Davao City<br>(for Mindanao only) | Ms. Dianne Silva<br>Tel. # (082) 554-3200<br>Tel. # (082) 227-4166 | April 22, 2005<br>May 9, 2005 | April 26, 2005<br>May 12, 2005 |
| NFA Cebu Office<br>Gov. M. Cuenco Ave.,<br>Banilad, Cebu City<br>(for Visayas only) | Mr. Piolito Santos<br>Tel. # (032) 232-1939<br>Tel. # (032) 232-6832 | April 22, 2005<br>May 9, 2005 | April 26, 2005<br>May 12, 2005 |
| NFA Central Office<br>101 Matimyas Bldg.,<br>E. Rodriguez Sr. Ave.,<br>Quezon City<br>(for Luzon only) | Ms. Espie Tecson<br>Tel. # 712-1708<br>Tel. # 712-1572 | April 21, 2005<br>May 10, 2005 | April 26, 2005<br>May 12, 2005 |

All offers must be accompanied by bid bond equivalent to 10% of the volume bidded in the form of Manager's or Cashier's Check payable to NFA issued by a reputable commercial bank.

Interested bidders may secure the terms and conditions starting April 20, 2005 at the aforementioned venues from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. For any inquiries, interested bidders can call the above-mentioned contact persons.

Bid documents will be available during the pre-auction conference to qualified bidders/offerors upon payment of non-refundable fee of P1,500.00 for FO's and retailers and P5,000.00 for other interested bidders (wholesalers/millers).

The National Food Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality thereof, and to accept only such bids that are advantageous to the Agency.

(Sgd.) CONRADO DL. IBAÑEZ
Assistant Administrator/
Chairman, Disposition Committee

(PDI - April 16 & 18, 2005)

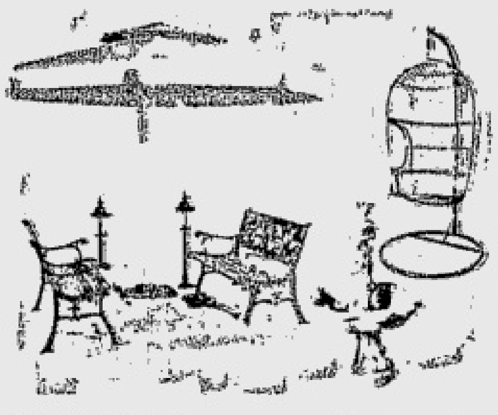
# Wilcon builds up the heat for the construction season

SUMMER'S here! The perfect time to build a new house, work on your repairs and do your home renovation, and a great time to visit Wilcon.

Wilcon is a one-stop shop that offers a complete range of quality building materials. It has a wide line-up of products for your plumbing, electrical, automotive, and outdoor living needs. It also has everything, from houseware to hardware to sanitary wares, as well as tools, paints, tiles, doors and moldings.

Designs are always updated to the latest trends. Styles are varied-from modern to traditional, from Asian to European. There are also many colors and textures to pick from, with prices ranging from affordable to high-end. There's bound to be something for your taste and budget. But it doesn't end there.

To make shopping for building materials even more exciting, Wilcon has launched the "Pick the Prize Raffle" promotion. For the first time in a grand scale, you can win the prize of your choice. There are four showcases to choose from-kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, and outdoor living-each one worth at least P50,000.



THE OUTDOOR showcase, one of the prizes at stake in Wilcon's latest promo.

The kitchen showcase includes a stainless steel sink, kitchen faucet, refrigerator, gas range, range hood, plate holder, and triple drawer basket.

The bedroom showcase consists of a king-sized bed with mattress, two side tables, comforter, and coffee table set.

The bathroom showcase has a sink, toilet bowl, paper holder, soap holder, bathtub, water heater, shower, and a faucet.

The outdoor living showcase is mainly a garden umbrella, rattan swing, fountain, garden benches, outdoor lamps, and pavement tiles.

The promotion begins March 15 and ends June 14 in Metro Manila and June 13 in Davao. To get a raffle coupon, all you need is at least P1,000 cash or card single purchase from Wilcon. Write your name, address, phone number, and signature. Don't forget to indicate the showcase of your choice on the raffle coupon.

Raffle draws will be held every middle and end of the month, from March 31 to June 16 at the different branches of Wilcon Builders' Depot. There will be one winner per draw.

The remaining draw dates and venues are: April 30 (Balintawak); May 16 (Pasong Tamo); May 31 (Alabang); and June 16 (Libis).

The more you buy, the more chances of winning. So, if you're hot on getting what you want, go to Wilcon Builders' Depot or Wilcon Builders' Supply now. With 12 branches around Metro Manila and one in Davao, most probably, there's one near you.

If you want to know more about Wilcon's products and promotion, log on to wilcon.com.ph.

"S e You ttery ave

**ROCKET BATTERY-MAXX-ENERGIE MOA**

Maxx-Energie Venture Corp (MEVC) recently entered into an agreement with Tong Te International Inc (TTII) for the distribution of Rocket Battery. Global & Yuasa Battery Co Ltd in the Philippines manufactures Rocket Battery. Presently, MEVC is actively involved in the distribution of environmentally friendly technology from ProTecã International USA, such as the revolutionary Battery Doctors System and Longa-Batt Battery Life Extender, to name a few. Shown, seated from left, are Linda Sanchez, CFO-MEVC, Mike Sanchez, GM-MEVC, Co Tong Te Jr, president-TTII, and Virginia Co, VP for marketing, TTII. Standing, from left, are Efren Tan, country representative, Rocket Battery, Reina Cruz, Andres Sanchez Jr, president, MEVC, Cris Llamo, COO-MEVC; Edgar Panganiban, sales manager, MEVC, and Manuel Planas, financial and marketing consultant, TTII.

### The Raya School summer workshops

THE RAYA School invites kids ages 4 to 10 to its summer workshops from April 19 to May 28. Learn Filipino arts and crafts and creative writing; experience classical and indigenous music; engage in exciting science experiments; and enjoy theater and movement. For inquiries, call Aiza at 0915-5375776 or e-mail elizabeth_rufo@yahoo.com.

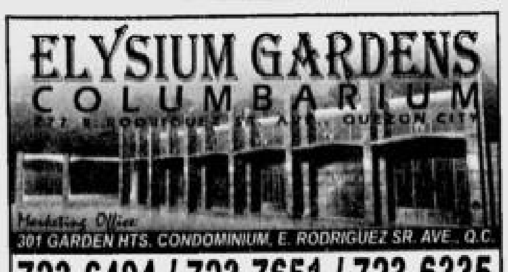
### Painting workshop

THE FEDERATION of Philippine Photographers Foundation (FPPF) offers a summer painting workshop for all ages at Fort Santiago from April 20 to 23, 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. under professor Cecilia S. Angeles, a cum laude Fine Arts graduate of the Philippine Women's University, where is a faculty member of the Fine Arts department. The art workshop aims to develop inherent creativity among new artists through pencil drawing, fine rendering and basic painting procedures either in acrylic, oil or oil pastel.

For further inquiries, interested parties can call 843-5341, 813-7420 or 844-7769.

### Edward Keller joins F&B expo

FOOD and beverage engineering giant Edward Keller (Philippines) Inc, a distributor of packaging, food processing, instrumentation and materials handling equipment, recently signed up with the only industry event that caters specifically to the manufacturing and technologies sub-sectors of the growing food and beverage industries in the country. The 7th International Food & Beverage Manufacturing and Technologies Expo (F&B ManuTech) is scheduled from June 22 to 24 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) Forum. For information on how to be part of the F&B ManuTech Expo, call Cut Unlimited at 687-0654, 687-0604, or e-mail cut@pacific.net.ph, or log on to www.foodandbeverage-manutech.com.

ELYSIUM GARDENS
COLUMBARIUM

Marketing Office:
301 GARDEN HTS. CONDOMINIUM, E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE., Q.C.
723-6494 / 723-7651 / 723-6335
WELCOME BROKERS AND AGENTS

# OBITUARIES

THE HERITAGE PARK

*The newest and most modern Funeral Home & Crematory in the country!
Trunk Line: (632) 845-2334 to 38
Direct Line: (632) 845-2440

## EDGARDO L. CRUZ

**of Balagtas, Bulacan & Sta. Mesa, Manila**

*Peacefully joined our Creator*
*on April 17, 2005 at the age of 54.*

His loving wife **Sonia Bautista**; children **Flor Angeli, Suzanne, Edison** and **Ralph Carlo**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for his eternal rest and everlasting happiness in heaven.

His body lies in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on April 20, 2005 at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Brixton Hills, Quezon City.

---

*An obituary*
*with a picture*
*can be a fitting*
*tribute to your*
*departed loved one.*

*Always caring...*
**INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

**WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS** and bank-to-bank payments

**OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:**
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS
• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS

---

*Nothing that is remembered fades and no one*
*who has touched a heart truly passes away . . .*

In loving memory of the
Tenth Death Anniversary
of

## Luz Puyat Martel

April 18, 1995

Holy Masses will be offered at the following Churches:

| | |
|---|---|
| **SANTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO**<br>Forbes Park | 6:15 AM<br>7:30 AM<br>12:15 PM<br>6:00 PM |
| **NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUIA PARISH**<br>Ermita, Manila | 6:00 PM |
| **OUR LADY OF SORROWS PARISH**<br>F.B. Harrison, Pasay City | 6:00 PM |
| **MALATE CHURCH**<br>Remedios St., Malate, Manila | 7:00 AM |
| **ASSUMPTION PARISH**<br>Leveriza, Manila | 6:15 PM |
| **HARRISON PLAZA CHAPEL**<br>Malate, Manila | 5:30 PM |
| **STA. CRUZ CHURCH**<br>Sta. Cruz, Manila | 6:30 AM<br>8:00 AM<br>1:00 PM<br>6:15 PM |
| **OUR LADY OF EDSA SHRINE**<br>Ortigas, Pasig City | 7:00 PM |
| **MINOR BASILICA OF THE BLACK NAZARENE**<br>Quiapo, Manila | 6:00 AM |
| **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH**<br>San Marcelino, Ermita | 6:30 AM |
| **ST. JOHN BOSCO PARISH**<br>Pasay Road | 6:00 PM |
| **ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH**<br>Bel-Air, Makati City | 6:30 AM |
| **ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGUORI PARISH**<br>Magallanes, Makati City | 6:00 AM |
| **BACLARAN REDEMPTORIST CHURCH**<br>Parañaque | 6:45 AM |
| **SANCTUARIO DE SAN JOSE**<br>Greenhills, Mandaluyong | 6:15 AM |

Her family kindly request all readers to remember her in their prayers.

---

"...absent from the body to be present with the Lord."
— 2 Corinthians 5:8

---

## Fr. Gregorio I. Pizarro, SVD

**Former**
**President – University of San Carlos, Cebu City**
**President – Divine Word University of Tacloban City**
**Head, Pontifical of Mission Society, Philippines**

*Peacefully joined his Creator on April 16, 2005 at the age of 82.*

The Society of the Divine Word Northern Province, his brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces and relatives request you to join them in sending him off with love and prayers.

His body lies in state at Villa Christo Rey Retirement House, Christ the King Mission Seminary, 101 E. Rodriguez, Sr. BLBD, Quezon City.

Holy Mass will be celebrated on April 21, 2005 at the Christ the King Mission Seminary Chapel at 3:00 PM.

Burial services will immediately follow at the Christ the King Cemetery.

---

**"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."**
— John 3:16

---

*" I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."* – **John 11:25-26**

## AURORA RAUSA ARBUES

*Died in the Grace of our Lord on April 16, 2005 at the age of 100.*

Her loving husband, **Manuel** (+); children **Herminia & Jesus** (+) **Bermejo, Josefina** (+) & **Ernesto Tabujara, Imelda** (+) & **Manuel** (+) **Liguaton, Lilia & Lourdy Torres, Rolando & Sancha Arbues, Rogelio** (+) & **Bella Arbues, Violeta & Pepito Pablo, Yolanda & Francis Abelardo, Elmer** (+) & **Brenda Arbues**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and friends request prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at the Marian Memorial Chapels, Inc., Marcos Hi-way, Brgy. Mayamot, Antipolo City.

Interment at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City will be announced later.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**WESTERN VISAYAS MEDICAL CENTER**
**Mandurriao, Iloilo City**
**Fax No. 321-17-97**
**E-mail Address: wvmc@mozcom.com**

Project Reference Number 001

### INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The DOH-Western Visayas Medical Center through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), invites suppliers/manufacturers/distributors/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the hereunder project.

Name of Project : Supplies and delivery of Hospital Equipment
Location : Western Visayas Medical Center
Brief Description :

| Description | Unit Price | ABC Total Price |
|---|---|---|
| 33 Hospital Beds | 70,000.00 | 2,310,000.00 |
| 3 Stretchers 3 Cranks | 86,000.00 | 258,000.00 |
| 5 Portable Suction Machines | 50,000.00 | 250,000.00 |
| 3 Wheelchairs | 5,600.00 | 16,800.00 |
| 1 Laparoscope w/ Accessories | 5,000,000.00 | 5,000,000.00 |
| 2 Anesthesia Machines | 410,000.00 | 820,000.00 |
| 1 Capnograph with Pulse Oximeter | 350,000.00 | 350,000.00 |

Approved Budget For the Contract Php 9,004,800.00
Contract Duration 30 days after receipt of Purchase Order
Delivery Period Within one month after receipt of Purchase Order

Prospective bidders should have experience in undertaking a similar project within the last two years with an amount of at least 50% of the proposed project for bidding. The Eligibility Check/Screening as well as the Preliminary Examination of Bids shall use non-discretionary "pass/fail" criteria. Post-qualification of the lowest calculated bid shall be conducted.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Statement and Screening, Bid Security, Performance Security, Pre-bidding Conference, Evaluation of Bids, Post-Qualification and Award of Contract shall be governed by the pertinent provisions of R.A. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR).

The complete schedule of activities is listed, as follows:

| Activities | Schedule |
|---|---|
| 1. Issuance of Bid Documents | April 12-29, 2005 |
| 2. Pre-bid Conference | April 19, 2005 |
| 3. Submission of Letters of Intent and Application for Eligibility (if single-stage bidding is used, delete this activity) | |
| 4. Opening of Bids | May 4, 2005 |
| 5. Bid Evaluation | May 5-17, 2005 |
| 6. Post-qualification | May 18-25, 2005 |
| 7. Notice of Award | May 31, 2005 |

Bid Documents will be available only to prospective bidders upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Php 2,500.00 to the DOH - Western Visayas Medical Center cashier.

The DOH-Western Visayas Medical Center assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of the bid.

Approved:
(Sgd.) ROMEO P. VARGAS, MD, FPCS
BAC-CHAIRMAN

(PDI – April 12 & 18 2005)

---

Republic of the Philippines
**BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE**
General Santos City

### INVITATION TO ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The City Government of General Santos hereby invites interested bidders/suppliers registered by the G-EPS and accredited supplier of General Santos City for Eligibility and to bid for the following proposals.

| | PARTICULARS | APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT / FUND SOURCE |
|---|---|---|
| 5CB-GSC-029 | PURCHASE OF VARIOUS AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES/MATERIALS | 2,139,384.25<br>(2005 Annual Budget) |
| 5CB-GSC-030 | PURCHASE OF VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION SUPPLIES / MATERIALS | 3,083,372.00<br>(2005 Annual Budget) |
| 5CB-GSC-031 | PURCHASE OF VARIOUS OFFICE SUPPLIES | 2,158,845.85<br>(2005 Annual Budget) |
| 5CB-GSC-032 | PURCHASE OF SUPPLIES FOR STREETLIGHT MAINTENANCE | 2,066,390.00<br>(2005 Annual Budget) |
| 5CB-GSC-033 | PURCHASE OF VARIOUS MEDICAL SUPPLIES | 7,574,865.34<br>(2005 Annual Budget) |
| 5CB-GSC-034 | PURCHASE OF VARIOUS DRUGS & MEDICINES | 4,869,705.76<br>(2005 Annual Budget) |

**BIDDING ACTIVITY:**
a. Issuance of Bid documents: April 11-25, 2005 (BAC Office, 2nd Floor, City Hall, GSC).
b. Pre-bid Conference: April 26, 2005, 10:00 AM @ City Mayor's Conference Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, GSC.
c. Dropping and Opening of Bids: May 10, 2005, 10:00 AM @ City Mayor's Conference, City Hall, GSC.

Official copies of the Bidding documents shall be available to those who are interested to participate upon payment of the bid documents.

Tax Clearance / Latest Income & Business Tax Returns duly stamped & received by BIR.

All particulars relative to Eligibility Requirements, Receipt and Opening of Bids, Evaluation, Post Qualification and Award shall be governed by RA 9184 and its implementing Rules and Regulation.

The City Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract in situations set forth in Section 41 of the IRR-A of RA 9184.

(Sgd) RODRIGO O. SALANGSANG
BAC Chairman

(PDI- April 11 & 18, 2005)

---

Republic of the Philippines
**SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM**
East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: (632) 921-2022 • (632) 922-2995
Fax No.: (632) 924-8470
E-mail: cdelapaz@globenet.com.ph

### INVITATION TO BID

**The Social Security System** is inviting offers to purchase by way of sealed bids, the **SSS-Makati Building.**

**PROPERTY:**
Location : Along Ayala Avenue corner Rufino St., Makati City
Description : 13 Storey Commercial Office Building with Parking Space
Lot Area - 5,881 sq.m.
Floor Area - 21,524 sq.m.

**MINIMUM BID PRICE: Php1,700,000,000.00**

**General Guidelines:**
1. Disposal of properties is on **"As Is Where Is"** basis. Interested bidders are enjoined to personally inspect the property.
2. Bid proposal may be in **cash or in installment** with a 10% downpayment and the balance payable in a maximum term of five (5) years at 13% interest per annum. Bidders shall submit proof of income if proposal is on installment basis.
3. The award shall be made to the bidder who made the most advantageous offer to the SSS. As a rule, cash bids shall be preferred over installment bids. An installment bid shall, however, be considered as more advantageous if the installment bid is greater by at least 20% and has a higher present value over a cash bid. In case of installment bids, the bid with the shortest payment period shall be preferred unless the difference in the bids is greater by at least 20% and has a higher present value, in which case the bid with the longer payment period shall be considered more advantageous to the SSS. In case of a tie in the cash or installment bids, as the case may be, the bidder who submitted the highest amount of deposit shall be preferred.
4. Bid proposal must be accompanied by **bidder's deposit equivalent to 10%** of the bid price in **Cash** or in **Manager's check** in favor of the Social Security System. It must be placed in a sealed envelope to be dropped at the Bid Box located at SSS Bidding Room, 6th Floor SSS Main Office Bldg. East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City.
5. Deadline for submission of Bid will be on **May 10, 2005 at 2:00 PM.**
6. Pre-Bid conference shall be held on April 25, 2005 at 2.00 PM at the SSS - Bidding Room, 6th Floor SSS Main Office Bldg. East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City.
7. SSS reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any defect found therein. All awards shall be subject to the approval of the Social Security Commission whose decision shall be final and binding on all concerned.

Bids forms and instruction to Bidders are available upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Php2,000.00** at the Office of Mr. Nazario S. Cabuquit Jr., Chairman, Special Bids and Awards Committee, 8th Floor, SSS Bldg. East Ave. Diliman, Quezon City. For other information please contact Ms. Tess Serrano or Ms. Haidee Canoza at Telephone Nos. 920-6401 local 6052 or 924-7364.

(Sgd.) **Nazario S. Cabuquit Jr.**
Chairman
Special Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – April 4 & 18, 2005)

---

JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com
**Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.**

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION**
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8978425 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8978425
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5224406 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

# NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005

**RATE**
P245 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

**DEADLINE**
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

### MEDICAL

#### PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

RAPID Tx VD-STD
Ex. SWEAT PIMPLES KELOID
ALLERGY WARTS SKIN PEEL
15 Annapolis Greenhills
Call 7276124 - 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD Skin Clinic Rapid
Tx Comp Lab Tel. 8175071
Matrinco 2178 P. Tamo Makati

### PERSONAL

#### MASSAGE

02-3233269 BEST BOYS

AKHIN COMBNTION 8347357

Alternative Therapy 8327363

AROMATHERAPHY 752-0018

ASK BELL MALE MASSEUR (0921)5164794

BEAUTIE'S MASSAGE
MLA:8957973 CEBU: (032) 2562187

BOY'S MASSAGE
MLA:4587993 CEBU: (032) 2593809

Candy 8971506;09212085309

HOLLYWOOD 456-0799

HUMANTOUCH 927-4137

MASSAGE 8547144 VICTOR

MR. UNIVERSE MASSAGE
1157 Quezon Ave. 410-1259

★ Mr BODY PHYSIQUE ★
11A Kamias QC 4350978

RELAXING MASSAGE 8978214

RICHARD MALE MASSEURS
7413399 (0918)4872191

THAI Msge Lic 0921-7569278

ULTIMUS 0916-8810645
1143-I Del Monte QC 4107326

#### REFLEXOLOGY

CHRIS or BOBBIE 8548556

★ Feels Good 4127758 ★

I-spa Ctland 9 Mkt 8160151

Jojo HMS 0920-8635511

### HOUSEHOLD

TRUSTED MAID, YAYA 5781796

#### HOUSEHOLD JOBS

A'A MAID & YAYA 4386920

All arnd Maid Yaya 4377986

Available: Yaya / Maid / Driver For Foreign / Fil. Clients Call 824-3352 • 0917-8541573

DIRECT MAIDS,YAYA, C-GIVER 7289060

EFFICIENT MAIDS
PROV'L & CITY ALL AROUND MAIDS
YAYA COOK LABA H'GIRL
873-7055•873-5062•873-7057

EXP MAIDS w/ NBI 4398468

GOOD MAIDS w/NBI 4376246

Help Agency 5328376 • 5322971

Trusted Maid Yaya 5343088

Trusted Maids Yaya H-Boy7572889

#### LIPAT BAHAY

•731-6833-LIPAT

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

L-BAHAY 8383742/09208449984

Lipat Agad 6817623 / 6817136

P1200/TRIP 742-14-57

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

### HOUSE & LOT

#### MANILA

SAN ANDRES MANILA
Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/4tb/1-2grge
P3.860M up 8903461 loc 34

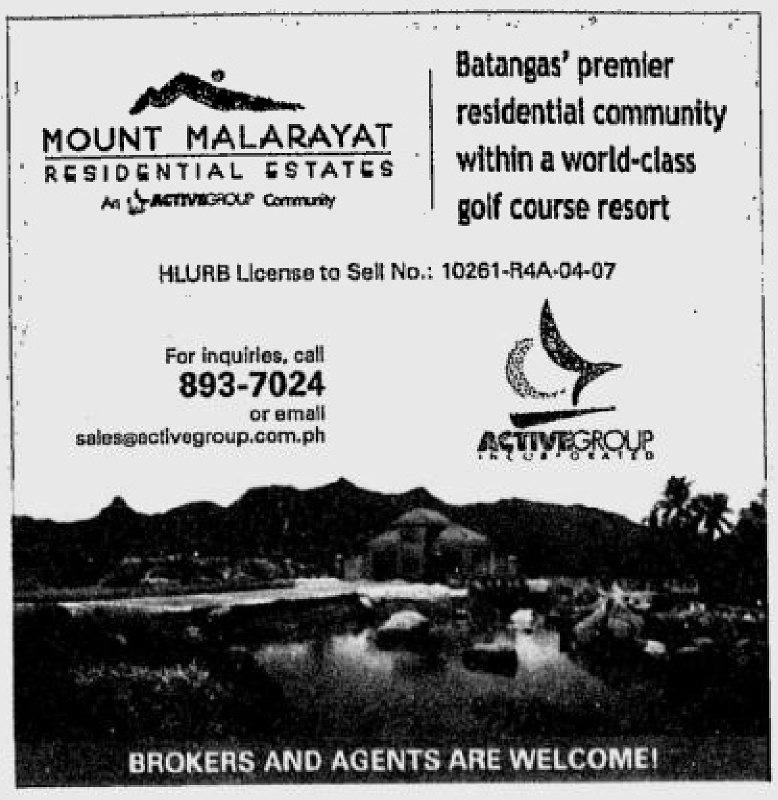
#### MARIKINA

Bnew com/res 3br 2.8M 9487112

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE



MOUNT MALARAYAT
RESIDENTIAL ESTATES
An ACTIVEGROUP Community

Batangas' premier residential community within a world-class golf course resort

HLURB License to Sell No.: 10261-R4A-04-07

For inquiries, call
893-7024
or email
sales@activegroup.com.ph

ACTIVEGROUP INCORPORATED

BROKERS AND AGENTS ARE WELCOME!

### HOUSE & LOT

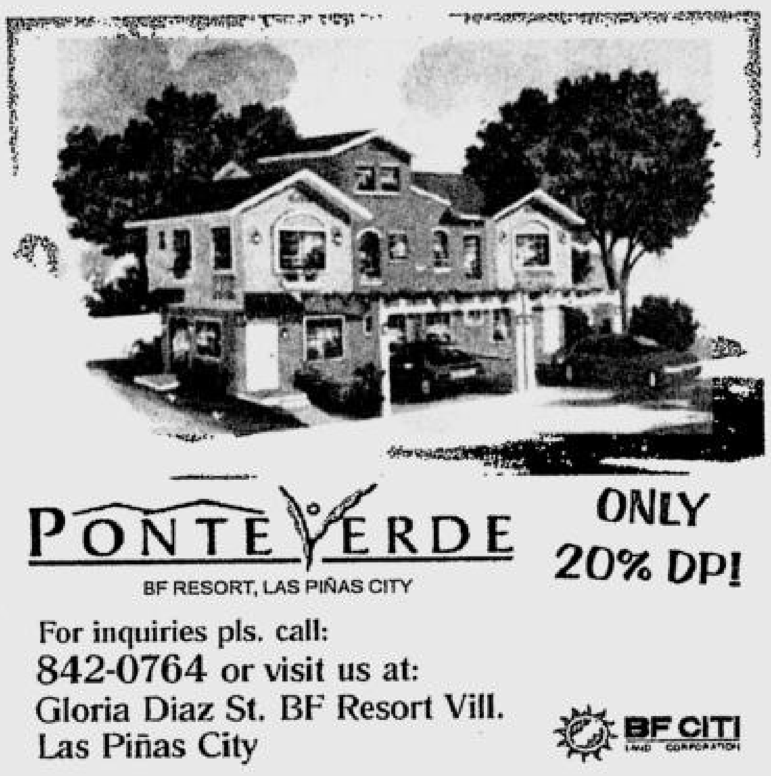
#### LAS PINAS

### HOUSE & LOT

#### LAS PINAS

### HOUSE & LOT

#### LAS PINAS



PONTE VERDE
BF RESORT, LAS PIÑAS CITY

ONLY 20% DP!

For inquiries pls. call:
842-0764 or visit us at:
Gloria Diaz St. BF Resort Vill.
Las Piñas City

BF CITI LAND CORPORATION

#### PARANAQUE

BNew LA106m² FA155m² EzTerm 3br 2tb 2CGrg Nawasa 2.95M 0917-6267707, 824-9073 DBO

Bnew Multinat'l
P2.2M Single Det 15%DP
9-12mos 0%interst 932-1218

Verdant T-house Hse & Lot No DP 20T/mo 0927 2805153

#### PASIG

178m² 3tb 4br w/Garage 641-6726 Cell# 09273044076 P8M Sumilang Pasig- Marte

#### QUEZON CITY

•SIKATUNA Vil #81 Mahiyain• 9210255; 9219967; 9209822

#### SAN JUAN

H/L 4Sty P3.5M • 631-3296

L.BAGUIO nr. Sch. 4B 400m² 721-3127 • 0917-3825198

MANDALUYONG NR SHAW
Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3-4tb/rmdsmv/1-2grge
P3.655M up 8903461

#### BULACAN

1800/mo-20yrs Tel 9372688

#### CAVITE

TAGAYTAY NEW HOUSE & LOT P3.5M ALSO FARM LOT TEL#733-7767/69/73

#### LAGUNA

3400/mo 25yrs Tel 5208410

### CONDO/TWNHSE

#### MAKATI

Hampstons Place Frnt of Hatch Asia Global City 0917-5213838

MAKATI CONDO FOR SALE
410-8395 / 0919-8504468

MANANSALA ROCKWELL BNEW
58m² 1br Pkg 5.7M 810-0264
0921-5833028 • 0922-3707595

### CONDO/TWNHSE

#### CAVITE

RSG GUEVENTHOMES

as low as P775T
[illegible]
in easy installment
70% Balance thru In-House convertible to *Pag-IBIG Housing Loan
[illegible] Sales Ofc:
531-0365 * 531-1384 * 534-9921
[illegible]
Toll Free: 1-800-10 RSGHOME
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible], Quezon City

BACOOR only 10 mins from Baclaran!
as low as
P4,800/mo*
* Pag-IBIG Housing Loan

#### MAKATI

P1.5M 3Br Condo Nr Mktl Drow 0921-6438096-7401083

RENT 2 OWN Condo Resort! 2BR P12T RFO 0928-2473987

#### MANDALUYONG

CONDO, BNEW, 09192189817

Rush Sale Wack² Condo 3br w/Prkg Nice View 0918-4762278

#### QUEZON CITY

1.1M-Condo Nr. Ortigas Title Trnsfr Svc • Sales H /L 9287436 4397716

CUBAO Condo 1.5M 9126976

EASTWOOD 3BR 3TB 4M
AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
Panoramic View Pool 77m²
0918-4845443

EASTWOOD 41m² 09166204156

#### SAN JUAN

MANDALUYONG NR SHAW
Bnew Twnhse/3stry/3br/3-4tb/rmdsmv/1-2grge
P3.655M up 8903461

#### TAGUIG

Hampston Place 0917-5213838

### CONDO/TWNHSE

#### CAVITE

### LOT

#### MARIKINA

Tangerine St 1178m² 0917-5213838

#### PARANAQUE

BF nr. Eluzalde 334m² 8,500T/m² 0917-6267/97, 824-9073 DBO

#### QUEZON CITY

11000m² Tandang Sora Nr Makro w/ W'hse 9849880

★AYALA HILLSIDE★
682m² 754m² 412-1825 DBO

### MEMORIAL LOT

HvensGate Cheap 0917-8571990

### FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

4.9M Farm Lot Fruit Trees Pagsanjan Laguna • 641-7025

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

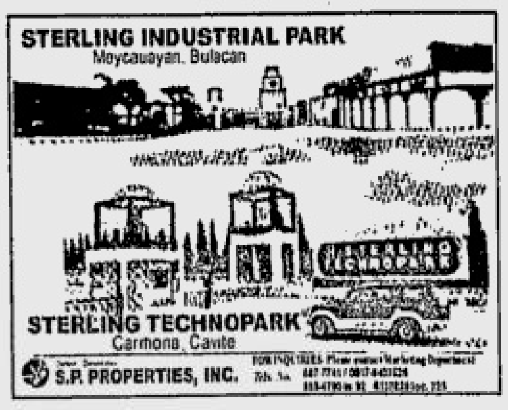
### HOUSE

#### CAVITE

PARKPLACE VILL 09276249173

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE



STERLING INDUSTRIAL PARK
Moycauayan, Bulacan

STERLING TECHNOPARK
Carmona, Cavite

S.P. PROPERTIES, INC.

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

### HOUSE

#### MAKATI

1128 ANTIPOLO ST 380 SQM 8902561/8902894

#### BULACAN

1BR/TB P5500/mo Sta Maria -Lyn M 8909718;09193384431

### CONDO/TWNHSE

#### MAKATI

Prime Twr 1BR 0921-7985148

#### BAGUIO

Baguio 3bdr + Maid's Rm Near Baguio Cntry Club P3,500/day 0917-8476518

### APARTMENT

#### MAKATI

1 & 2 BRMS W/ GARAGE STRONG WATER 8902561/8902894

#### MANILA

Crisostomo St. 6459302

#### QUEZON CITY

BNEW studio PROJ.2
4342604 / 0919-2876641

CUBAO nr Sogo LRT 4210747

### FOR LEASE

For Lease Office Bldg. Goodwill II Sucat P'que City Tel No. 825-9550

### WAREHOUSE/ FACTORY

500sqshp Cubao 7257342 30T

### ROOM & BOARD

BF P'QUE 8257524 P200!!

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

P120 only! Cool 711-8679
WINDSOR INN, Maceda St
nr 7-11 Dimasalang Mla

### BEDSPACE

Mkti nr Ayala P1T Ldy 8974097

### WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY ALL
SCRAP
OF THE FOLLOWING
LATA
(TIN CAN)
SOFTDRINK
CAN
(ALUMINUM)
G.I. ROOFING
STEEL & CAST
IRON
(PONDIDO)
USED CARTON
and
ORE OF
MANGANESE
and
IRON (MINA)
CALL JAMES GEI
(0917)021-1473

### RESORT LEASE/ RENT

Pansol hot Spring prtv / 767597

### LOAN & MORTGAGE

BUSINESS , DOCTOR 524-3197

### OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

★JOLLIBEE PLAZA 89.74m²★
+1Carpk @23T/mo 412-1825

#### MAKATI

OFFICE SPACES FOR LEASE (58m²- 627m²) TEL.#887-6003

## REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR RENT

### COMMERCIAL

Ofc @ 1.2M or 10K/mo 631-3296

#### MAKATI

Makati Manila RFO CONDO Sale / Rent 09176266516

## TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

### CARS

#### HONDA

'93 ESi Red M/T P180T Neg. Call or Txt 0927-7320154

#### MITSUBISHI

02M N Patrol Mtic 1.380 CCLOR Black Tel 8990215

#### NISSAN

01 Frontier 4x2 55Tkm M/T 0919-8707359 • 0919-3552515

#### TOYOTA

80 DX 38T 0927-4550697

83Crla P45T 750-2159 Tess

98'Taxi w/LN 09189355981

#### OTHER CAR BRANDS

Pajero Land Cruiser Trooper Surf Terrano Largo Delica Hi-town-Lite Ace Estima Serena Suzuki Elf Canter etc Financing T-in 7127539

#### SPECIAL CARS

CHEVY CASSI A'01
50K-A1 CALL 9277623
CELFON 09167818917

### MOTORCYCLE

JAWA 350cc Cychos
Made Euro P100,000
925-8982 ;09205910717

### BUSES/TRUCKS

ISUZU ELF '97
A1-All Power Dropside
9277623 / 0916-7818917

## TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

ABC RENT A CAR
HI-ACE • STAREX
L300 • CRV • NBVO
HONDA • VIOS • ALTIS • LYNX • CILA
MLA : 536-8822 • 303-9789
Q.C.: 426-2276 • 426-4084

### CARS FOR RENT

CarsVans ConsterBus 422-9296

STAREX'05 MB100 9483535

P800/L3 9136710 / 4333602

RENT-A-VAN 6424405

TOYCO CARS
Udnve Widriver, All kinds: Cars, Vans, SUV • Mla.(02) 800-6595 802-3021 • Cebu (032) 345-1802

VANS-CARS•726-8388

---

Republic of the Philippines
**OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN**
Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City

**OFFICE ORDER No. 05-15**
Series of 2005

To : **ALL CONCERNED**
Subject : **RULES ON GIFTS AND BENEFITS**
Date : **25 January 2005**

### I. PURPOSE

Being at the forefront in the fight against graft and corruption and guided by the principles that a public office is a public trust and all public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency, act with patriotism and lead modest lives, the Office of the Ombudsman is committed to upholding the highest standards of honesty and integrity throughout the institution.

In the performance of their duties and responsibilities, the officials and employees of this Office should serve as the protectors of the people and paragons of truth and justice. Thus, any act of indiscretion or impropriety, or suspicion of indiscretion on their part, shall greatly affect the honor and dignity of the institution and the people's confidence in it.

In this light, there is an imperative need to establish rules on gifts and benefits that are peculiar to the officials and employees of the Office of the Ombudsman.

### II. SCOPE

These Rules shall apply to all officials and employees of the Office of the Ombudsman, in addition to other prohibitions on soliciting and receiving gifts and benefits imposed by law.

### III. POLICIES AND RULES

**Section 1**. As used herein, the term:

*Gift* – refers to a thing disposed of gratuitously in favor of another, and shall include a simulated sale or a disposition onerous to the giver and/or unduly beneficial to the recipient.

*Benefit* – refers to a right, privilege, entertainment, exemption as any other similar act of liberality in favor of another.

*Agent* – A person who acts in representation of another.

**Section 2**. OMB officials and employees shall not solicit, directly or indirectly, gifts and/or benefits, for themselves or for others.

**Section 3**. OMB officials and employees shall not, directly or indirectly, accept or receive any gift or benefit from any party which may influence their official actions or which might reasonably be perceived as influencing or improperly relating to past, present or future performance of their official functions.

**Section 4**. In the course of the performance of their official functions, OMB officials and employees shall not accept any fee or remuneration beyond what they are legally entitled to receive in their official capacity in accordance with law.

**Section 5**. OMB officials and employees shall not accept or receive gifts and/or benefits, directly or indirectly, from any of the following:

(a) Parties, counsel, and their grants;
(b) Accused, defense counsel, and their agents in any Ombudsman case before any court;
(c) Suppliers and contractors, and their agents; and
(d) Other parties transacting business with the Office.

**Section 6**. OMB officials and employees shall likewise not accept or receive gifts and/or benefits from other persons belonging to the public sector not falling within the classification in the previous Section.

**Section 7**. OMB officials and employees may accept gifts and/or benefits from their spouses, children and parents, provided that the latter shall not appear or act as counsel in any case before the Office of the Ombudsman, or as defense counsel in any Ombudsman case before any court. They may also accept gifts and/or benefits from their parents-in-law, brothers and sisters, provided the latter do not fall in the classification in Section 5. Gifts and/or benefits received under this Section valued at Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more shall be recorded in a Registry Book to be provided and kept in custody by the Internal Affairs Board (IAB).

OMB officials and employees may also accept gifts and/or benefits from their other relatives within the 4th civil degree, who do not fall within the same classification in Section 5; Provided, that any such gift and/or benefit valued at Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more shall be recorded in the Registry book in the custody of the IAB.

OMB officials and employees may also accept gifts and/or benefits from their other relatives within the 4th civil degree, who do not fall within the same classification in Section 5; Provided, that any such gift and/or benefit valued at Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more shall be recorded in the Registry Book in the custody of the IAB.

The gifts and/or benefits allowed in this Section shall not be given and/or accepted within the Office and its premises or such other places temporarily occupied by the Office or its officers and employees in the conduct of office-related functions and activities.

**Section 8**. OMB officials and employees may give and/or receive token gifts of nominal value from their fellow officials and employees appropriate to the occasion in which it is made. A gift shall be considered nominal if it has a value of Three Hundred Pesos (P300.00), more or less, on a per giver/recipient basis or such similar amount as may be appropriate to the position and/or income of the giver. It must be understood, however, that if the aggregate amount of the token gifts of nominal value received under this section within the calendar year is Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more, the recipient shall cause the same to be recorded in the Registry Book in the custody of the IAB.

OMB officials and employees may give and/or receive to/from their fellow officials and employees emergency contribution/assistance of reasonable value or amount in cases of death, illness and other similar situations.

**Section 9**. Officials and employees may receive plaques, awards, certificates, souvenirs or other tokens of appreciation or gratitude and/or benefits as appropriate to the occasion/ceremonies in which it is made provided that such plaques, awards or certificates, and/or benefits might not reasonably be perceived as intended to influence the officials/employees in the performance of their official functions.

**Section 10**. All prohibited gifts left at the Office or its premises shall be immediately returned to the giver. In circumstances where it is considered inappropriate or impractical to return the said gifts (e.g., perishable goods), the official or employee concerned shall immediately hand over the same to the Director, Public Assistance Bureau, or his duly designated representative, who shall dispose of the same in favor of charitable organizations, schools, libraries, museums or any other appropriate institutions or organizations, including indigent families. The Director, Public Assistance Bureau, or his designated representative, shall report to the IAB any incident covered by this Section.

**Section 11**. These rules shall not apply to the following:

(a) Gifts and/or benefits received by the Office as an institution from other offices or organizations, including grants and donations;
(b) Gifts or cash award given by the Office to its officials and employees during Anniversary and Christmas celebrations;
(c) Gifts exchanged on occasions of Christmas celebrations among members of the Inter-Agency Anti-Graft Coordinating Council, the Constitutional Fiscal Autonomy Group and other organizations to which the Office of the Ombudsman belongs; and
(d) Performance-based cash rewards, scholarship grants, and similar benefits granted to OMB officials and employees by appropriate government agencies, private institutions, or national or international organizations.

Under paragraphs a and c of this section however, if the total value of the gifts and/or benefits received is Two Thousand Pesos (P2,000.00) or more, it shall likewise be recorded in the Registry Book kept in the custody by the IAB.

Section 12. It shall be the duty of the IAB to submit quarterly reports to the Ombudsman on gifts herein registered.

### IV. PENALTIES

Any violation of these Rules shall be a ground for disciplinary action, without prejudice to the filing of appropriate criminal charges, if warranted, against the erring official and/or employee.

### V. EFFECTIVITY

This Office Order within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette, and upon the filing with the University of the Philippines Law Center of three (3) certified copies thereof, including its publication in a newspaper of general circulation for three (3) consecutive weeks.

Simeon V. Marcelo
SIMEON V. MARCELO
*Tanodbayan*
*(Ombudsman)*

(PDI - April 4, 11 & 18, 2005)

---

## TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

### WANTED TO BUY

BUYING USED CAR & SANGLA TEL. 899-0215

### CAR LOAN

1.5% Car Loan 5344441

1.5% CARLOAN 373-6519

1.5% CARLOAN 788-0361

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

## TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

### CAR LOAN

1.5% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1.5% Easy Carloan 7815352/55

1.5% Fast Car Loan 6560140

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 7228942-43

2% w/o taking car 7880183-84

2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

## TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

### CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 8870490/95

2% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/out taking car 6567685

2% w/out taking car 5315577

## GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

### MISCELLANEOUS

**FOR SALE**
**REFER, TRUCK**
**WALK-IN CHILLER/FREEZER**
**DOUGH SHEETER**
**SPIRAL MIXER**
AND OTHER RESTAURANT EQPT.
CALL: 531-0633 (IMELDA)

### BUY/SELL

PRUDENTIAL PLANS 7800106

### HOME APPLIANCE

JUST CALL WE DELIVER 2HP CARRIER P9T 1.5H.P. P7T 1 HP P6T 3TON PACKAGE 04 CARRIER ALINAIRE KOPPEL P30T 5TON P45 T-921-9465

### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Almost New:TERMS-7213124

### PETS

**ASZOO**
DOG TRAINING 455-6212

DOG TRAINER 0919-3419012

GOLDEN PUPS for sale...SIRE: Bis Ph HOF Zippidee Magel Tarisman (Imp In dam) DAM: Zippidee Luks Got Nth Tdo Wat Show & Pers available. Contact Arrie 09178992080 / 6376886

### WANTED TO BUY

"PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE"
LOW 5% INTEREST
BUY • SELL • PAWN
**SWISS WATCHES**
AGENCIA de MAKATI-4587017
SECONDO AYALA CENTER-8940282
OPEN MONDAY TO SATURDAY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
**BUY • SELL • PAWN**
**ROLEX+OTHERS**
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
DIAMONDS / JEWELRY
HI-APPRAISAL/FAST CASH
REPAIR/POLISH ANY WATCH
T#804-0484 • 834-2886

## GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

### MISCELLANEOUS

### WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
**ROLEX**
5646593 5897041
5633742 0917-8473744

**BUYING ROLEX**
Other WATCHES, BEST PRICE
0917-8142309 • 7269687
7220433 • 4123543

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**NOTICE OF CANCELLATION**

UPON Deed of Cancellation made and entered into this November 29, 1989 by KABUL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION and LOURDES S. CATALUCCI to cancel the Land Purchase Agreement dated May 4, 1970 over Lot No. 11 Block 7 of Pacsonville Subdivision, Tungkong Mangga, San Jose Del Monte City, as ACKNOWLEDGED BY Notary Public Jose V. Navarra Doc. No. 183 Page No. 59 Book No. XXVIII series of 1989. Notice to the interested parties and to the public is hereby served pursuant to its rights granted by R.A. 6552. Quezon City, Philippines, April 15, 2005.

(PDI - April 18, 2005)

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

**NEED SIDELINE?**
P/F up to P20K/mo. 3762642

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late TERESA M. ANDRADE has been extrajudicially settled between her heirs as per Doc. No. 162; Page 34; Book No. XX11; Series of 2004 before Atty. Esperanza C. Doroja, Notary Public of Manila.
PDI-April 15,18 & 25,2005

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

L88EDC has TRANSFORMED & CHANGED the lives of many professionals into GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURS. www.L88edc.com

P2,000 lang, Sariling Bizniz Jun 438-3309/0920-91129210

RTW Consign 09167940002

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### MALE

Massuer 18-25yo 09204540607

### FEMALE

SALES PROMO GIRLS
White to Fair Complexion FOR Beauty Products 7248781 7272890

### MALE/FEMALE

10 Female English Teachers, w /Call Ctr exp 80-100/hr 4 hrs David 0919-7247738

**BSP•BSN•PT•MT**
Any Allied Health Grads up to P45T/ Mo! 8927828

CAKE DECORATOR FABRIC PAINTER Call 5322398

Camera / 4C stripper & Comp. Graphic Artist T330-7861 • 361-5350

CAREGIVERS 3026893

NOTICE OF VACANCY
DIVISION OF PASIG CITY AND SAN JUAN
TEACHER I ITEM NO. OSEC-DECSB-TCH1-30336-2000

OFFICE STAFF (0918)2742245 TRISH

Rush: Yaya / Maid / Driver / Cook Call 824-3352 • 0917-8541573

SALES REP w/ Salary & Commission 09178398865 / 9151390 to 96

---

Republic of the Philippines
**National Electrification Administration**
Quezon City

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY

## GENERAL MANAGER

**FOR**
**Biliran Electric Cooperative, Inc.**
**(BILECO)**
**Naval, Biliran Province**

**Qualifications:**

- 30-50 YEARS OLD
- Male or Female
- Graduate of Business Administration, Engineering (Electrical, Mechanical, ECE), Accounting, Finance, Management or Behavioral Science
- With Master's Degree or Post-Graduate Degree preferred
- Must have at least five (5) years managerial experience in a utility-related business enterprise
- Computer literate
- Must be willing to relocate with his/her family in Biliran

**Starting Salary P25,000.00**

Application forms and additional information may be obtained from the Institutional Development Department, 6th Floor, NEA Building, NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City. Deadline for submission of application forms is on 18 May 2005.

(Sgd.) **EDITA S. BUENO**
Administrator

---

**PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION**

## NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS OF RURAL BANK OF MARIVELES (BATAAN), INC.

Please take notice that on April 25, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. the motion for Approval of Final Project of Distribution of Assets and Termination of the Liquidation Proceedings of the Rural Bank of Mariveles (Bataan), Inc. will be submitted to the Liquidation Court (RTC-Third Judicial Region, Branch 4, Balanga, Bataan, Sp. Proc. No. 117-ML) for approval.

**PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION**
Liquidator

(PDI - April 18, 2005)

---

Republic of the Philippines
**OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN**
Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City

## BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS

In Compliance with RA 7041

### 1. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND CORRUPTION PREVENTION OFFICE (PACPO)

**BUREAU OF RESIDENT OMBUDSMAN**

**CLERK III** - Item No. OMBA-CK3-6-1998; SG-6

Education: Completion of 2 years studies in college; Experience: None required; Training: None required; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/ First Level Eligibility

### 2. PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION, ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION AND MONITORING OFFICE (PAMO) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT UNIT

**STENOGRAPHIC REPORTER IV** - Item No. OMBA-STENR4-9-1998; SG-13

Education: Completion of 2 years studies in college; Experience: 3 years of relevant experience; Training: 16 hours of relevant training; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/First Level Eligibility

**CLERK II** - Item No. OMBA-CK2-7-1998; SG-6

Education: Completion of 2 years studies in college; Experience: None required; Training: None required; Eligibility: Career Service Subprofessional/ First Level Eligibility

Interested applicants should submit applications within twenty (20) working days from the date of this publication to the Human Resource Management Division at the above address, the following requirements pursuant to Office Order No. 05-17, series of 2005:

1) AN APPLICATION LETTER STATING THE POSITION/ITEM NUMBER APPLIED FOR;
2) DULY ACCOMPLISHED PERSONAL DATA SHEET (CSC FORM 212);
3) 1" x 1" PICTURE (COLORED);
4) BIRTH CERTIFICATE;
5) BAR RATING/CSC CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY;
6) TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS;
7) CERTIFICATES OF SEMINARS/TRAININGS ATTENDED;
8) SERVICE RECORDS OR CERTIFICATES FROM PREVIOUS/ PRESENT EMPLOYERS STATING THE POSITIONS ASSUMED AND CORRESPONDING ACTUAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (IF APPLICABLE);
9) POLICE CLEARANCE;
10) NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI) CLEARANCE;
11) CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC) CLEARANCE (ONLY FOR APPLICANTS WHO ARE OR HAVE BEEN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES);
12) RESULTS OF NEURO-PSYCHIATRIC TEST ADMINISTERED NOT EARLIER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE PUBLICATION OF THE POSITION; AND
13) CERTIFICATION UNDER OATH OF THE APPLICANT AS TO ANY RELATIVE(S) OF THE APPLICANT WITHIN THE FOURTH DEGREE OF CONSANGUINITY AND AFFINITY, CURRENTLY EMPLOYED WITH THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN.

---

## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

### MR. FEDERICO R. YUZON

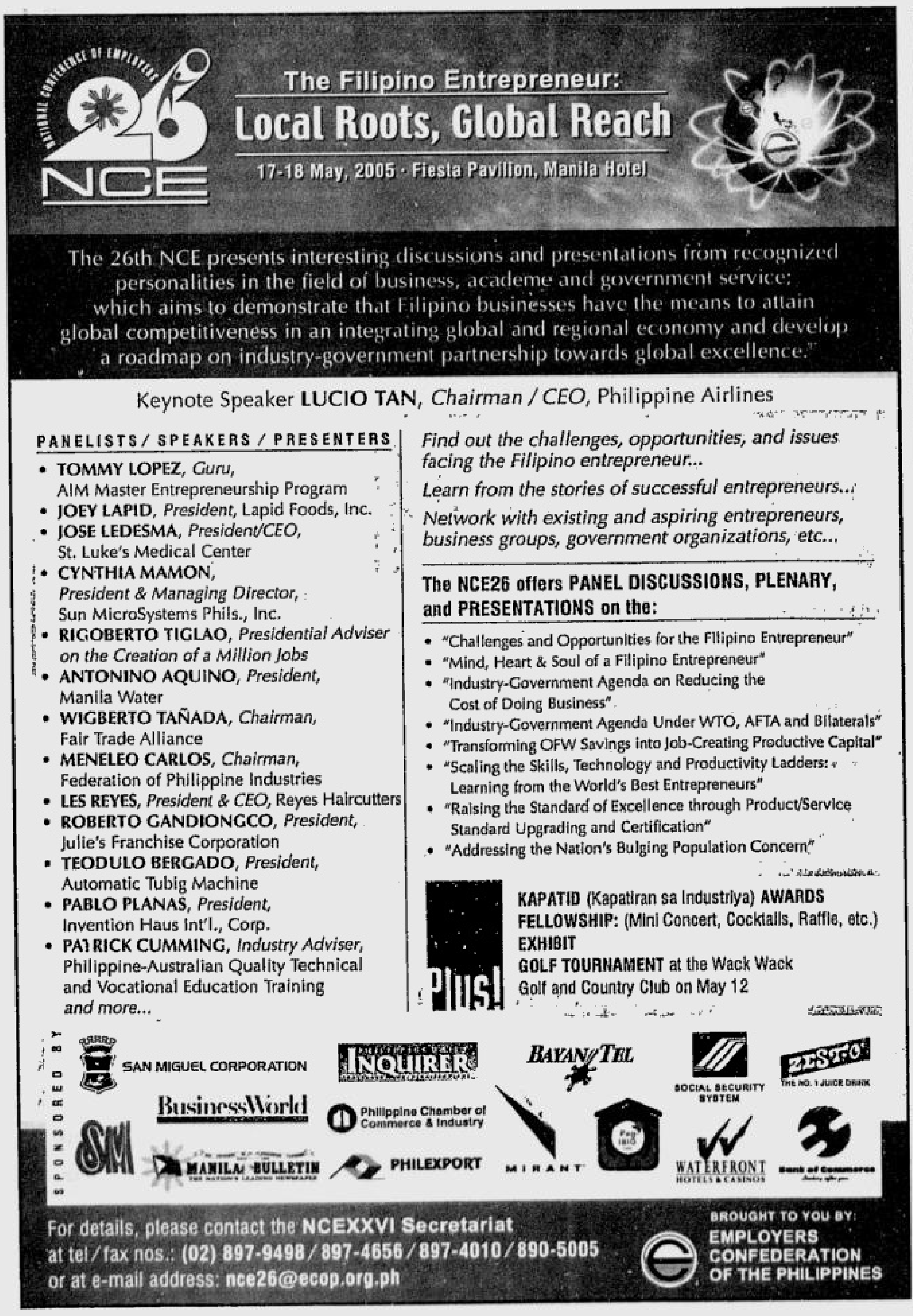
This is to inform the public that **MR. FEDERICO R. YUZON**, whose picture appears above with last known address at 118 Doña Aurora St. Angono, Rizal is no longer connected with **DIWA DISTRINET INC.**, a distributor of **DIWA LEARNING SYSTEMS INC** publications since May 26,2003.

Henceforth, he is no longer authorized to transact or conduct business in behalf of the above-mentioned companies.

**DIWA MANAGEMENT**

(PDI - April 18, 2005)

---



NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF EMPLOYERS
26
NCE
Plus!
SAN MIGUEL CORPORATION
INQUIRER
BAYAN TEL
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM
ZESTO THE NO. 1 JUICE DRINK
BusinessWorld
Philippine Chamber of Commerce & Industry
SM
MANILA BULLETIN
PHILEXPORT
MIRANT
WATERFRONT HOTELS & CASINOS
Bank of Commerce

The Filipino Entrepreneur:
**Local Roots, Global Reach**
17-18 May, 2005 · Fiesta Pavilion, Manila Hotel

The 26th NCE presents interesting discussions and presentations from recognized personalities in the field of business, academe and government service: which aims to demonstrate that Filipino businesses have the means to attain global competitiveness in an integrating global and regional economy and develop a roadmap on industry-government partnership towards global excellence."

Keynote Speaker **LUCIO TAN**, *Chairman / CEO*, Philippine Airlines

**PANELISTS / SPEAKERS / PRESENTERS**

- **TOMMY LOPEZ**, *Guru*, AIM Master Entrepreneurship Program
- **JOEY LAPID**, *President*, Lapid Foods, Inc.
- **JOSE LEDESMA**, *President/CEO*, St. Luke's Medical Center
- **CYNTHIA MAMON**, *President & Managing Director*, Sun MicroSystems Phils., Inc.
- **RIGOBERTO TIGLAO**, *Presidential Adviser on the Creation of a Million Jobs*
- **ANTONINO AQUINO**, *President*, Manila Water
- **WIGBERTO TAÑADA**, *Chairman*, Fair Trade Alliance
- **MENELEO CARLOS**, *Chairman*, Federation of Philippine Industries
- **LES REYES**, *President & CEO*, Reyes Haircutters
- **ROBERTO GANDIONGCO**, *President*, Julie's Franchise Corporation
- **TEODULO BERGADO**, *President*, Automatic Tubig Machine
- **PABLO PLANAS**, *President*, Invention Haus Int'l., Corp.
- **PATRICK CUMMING**, *Industry Adviser*, Philippine-Australian Quality Technical and Vocational Education Training

*and more...*

*Find out the challenges, opportunities, and issues facing the Filipino entrepreneur...*

*Learn from the stories of successful entrepreneurs...*

*Network with existing and aspiring entrepreneurs, business groups, government organizations, etc...*

**The NCE26 offers PANEL DISCUSSIONS, PLENARY, and PRESENTATIONS on the:**

- "Challenges and Opportunities for the Filipino Entrepreneur"
- "Mind, Heart & Soul of a Filipino Entrepreneur"
- "Industry-Government Agenda on Reducing the Cost of Doing Business"
- "Industry-Government Agenda Under WTO, AFTA and Bilaterals"
- "Transforming OFW Savings into Job-Creating Productive Capital"
- "Scaling the Skills, Technology and Productivity Ladders: Learning from the World's Best Entrepreneurs"
- "Raising the Standard of Excellence through Product/Service Standard Upgrading and Certification"
- "Addressing the Nation's Bulging Population Concern"

**KAPATID** (Kapatiran sa Industriya) **AWARDS**
**FELLOWSHIP:** (Mini Concert, Cocktails, Raffle, etc.)
**EXHIBIT**
**GOLF TOURNAMENT** at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club on May 12

SPONSORED BY

For details, please contact the **NCEXXVI Secretariat** at tel / fax nos.: **(02) 897-9498 / 897-4656 / 897-4010 / 890-5005** or at e-mail address: **nce26@ecop.org.ph**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
**EMPLOYERS CONFEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES**

---

**CALL POEA**
24-HOUR HOTLINES
**722-1144 or 722-1155**

---

**DBP** Development Bank of the Philippines

## INVITATION TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines will receive sealed bids on April 27, 2005, 2:00 p.m., 12th Floor, Suite 5, of the DBP Head Office, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City for the following properties on CASH BASIS:

| CODE | LOCATION | DESCRIPTION | MINIMUM SELLING PRICE |
|---|---|---|---|
| REAL ESTATE | | | |
| BATANGAS | | | |
| AM-CP-051 | Bo. Natu, Rosario | 89,371 m², 4 contiguous vacant agricultural lots (TCT Nos. T-118608 to T-118611) | P 6,618,600.00 |
| AM-CP-052 | Brgy. Namuco, Rosario | 90 m² commercial lot (TCT No. 118604) with bldg. & imp. | P 1,638,000.00 |
| CAVITE | | | |
| DAS-007 | Bo. San Juan, Gen. Trias | 654 m², 3 parcels of residential lots (TCT Nos. T-102914 to T-1024916) with bldg. & imp. | P 2,200,000.00 |
| DAS-008 | Poblacion, Rosario | 442m², 2 parcels of residential lots (TCT Nos. T-1024912 and T-1024913) with bldg. & imp. | P 3,058,500.00 |
| RIZAL | | | |
| | Roseville Subd., Brgy. San Juan, Taytay | 222 subdivision lots with 61 housing models: | |
| AM-CP-053a | Blk. 1 Lots 1 - 22 | 1,018 m² TCT Nos. T-659896 to T-659917 | P 2,044,000.00 |
| AM-CP-053b | 2 1 - 21 | 955 m² TCT Nos. T-659918 to T-659938 | P 1,599,000.00 |
| AM-CP-053c | 3 1 - 13 | 622 m² TCT Nos. T-659939 to T-659951 | P 622,000.00 |
| AM-CP-053d | 4 1 - 15 | 695 m² TCT Nos. T-659952 to T-659966 | P 1,042,500.00 |
| AM-CP-053e | 5 1 - 26 | 1,273 m² TCT Nos. T-659967 to T-659992 | P 2,617,000.00 |
| AM-CP-053r | 6 1 - 17 | 830 m² TCT Nos. T-659993 to T-659995, T-659682 to T-659695 | P 1,993,800.00 |
| AM-CP-053g | 7 1 - 16 | 1,129 m² TCT Nos. T-659864 to T-659879 | P 3,882,200.00 |
| AM-CP-053h | 8 1 - 16 | 1,079 m² TCT Nos. T-659853 to T-659863, T-659794 to T-659798 | P 3,761,400.00 |
| AM-CP-053i | 9 1 - 22 | 1,038 m² TCT Nos. T-659799 to T-659820 | P 1,868,400.00 |
| AM-CP-053j | 10 1 - 22 | 994 m² TCT Nos. T-659821 to T-659842 | P 3,483,200.00 |
| AM-CP-053k | 11 1 - 20 | 950 m² TCT Nos. T-659918 to T-659937 | P 950,000.00 |
| PAMPANGA | | | |
| AM-JA-055 | Bo. San Isidro, Minalin | 21,408 m2 agro-industrial lot (TCT No. 368096-R) with factory/residential bldg & imp. | P 26,102,900.00 |
| CHATTELS (sale on per item/set and "as-is, where-is" basis) | | | |
| AM-JA-056a | Brgy. San Isidro, Minalin, Pampanga | 2 units conveyorized powder coating oven, 1 unit Shearing Machine, AMADA type, 1 unit hydraulic press, 50 tons capacity; 1 unit power press, 30 tons capacity | P 306,825.00 |
| AM-JA-056b | No. 6 Banner St., Bagong Ilog, Pasig | 1 unit PVL shrinking machine; 2 units hydraulic press, 250 tons capacity | P 761,250.00 |

BIDDERS ARE REMINDED:

1. To inspect the properties to determine their actual condition before the bidding;
2. To submit in DBP's official bid form available at the AMD-Acquired Assets, 2nd Floor, DBP Head Office during office hours and
3. To be on time. No bids will be accepted once unsealing of the bids commences. The sale shall be subject to other terms and conditions which may be imposed by the Bank.

DBP RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, OR TO ACCEPT SUCH BIDS AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE BANK. THE DECISION OF THE BANK IS FINAL AND BINDING.

For inquiries, please call telephone numbers: 892-1566 / 893-7172 or 818-9511 local 2218/2252 for code starting with AM; and 818-9511 local 1427 Code starting with DAS.

**ASSET MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT**

(PDI – April 18 & 19, 2005)

# Creditors clear way for Maynilad buyout

**By Elizabeth L. Sanchez and Christine A. Gaylican**

CREDITORS and shareholders of Maynilad Water Services Inc. have agreed to allow private investors to acquire a majority stake in the company instead of turning over control of the firm back to the government.

This would be part of the new amendments that would shape the company's restructuring.

The amendments would be included in Maynilad's final rehabilitation plan to be submitted to a local court by the end of the month, according to designated court receiver Rosario Bernaldo.

"The proposed condition will be included as it opens opportunities for a private investor to take over the company, instead of reverting [it] back to government," Bernaldo told the INQUIRER.

However, in the absence of an interested party, the government, through the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), would take over and continue to operate the water distributor, Bernaldo added.

Prospective investors, including DMCI Holdings Inc., are firming up their interest to acquire the shares of Benpres Holdings Inc. in the west concessionaire.

Sources said another consortium of private banks had also signified its interest in Maynilad.

The MWSS is on top of Maynilad's list of creditors with an exposure of P8 billion representing unpaid concession fees.

The company's other creditors, accounting for the remaining P10 billion in obligations, include Credit Agricole, Indosuez Merchant Bank Asia Ltd., Citibank NA, Barclays Bank PLC and BNP Paribas, Equitable PCI-Bank, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. and the Development Bank of the Philippines.

DMCI Holdings Inc., which is bent on acquiring the Lopez-led firm, said it would abide by the terms of Maynilad's final rehabilitation plan.

Under Maynilad's proposal, the MWSS would be given control of about 60 percent of the west concession area.

Under a proposed amendment to the Concession Agreement, the company to be controlled by the MWSS would be called the New Maynilad.

Four government appointees and three representatives of the firm's creditors would sit in Maynilad's board of directors.

Benpres Holdings and its foreign partner, Ondeo Philippines Inc., will remain as minority shareholders.

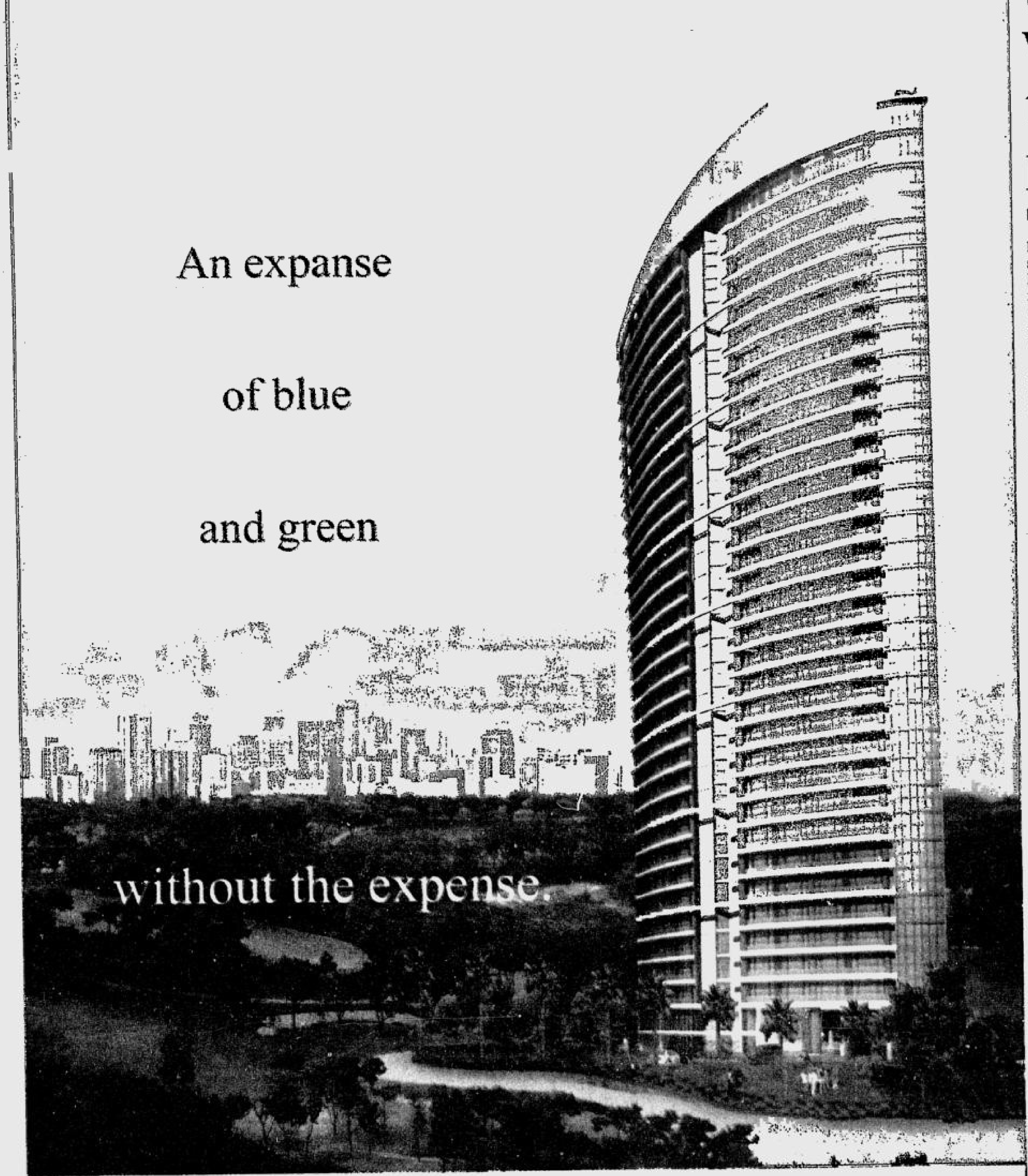
Maynilad has proposed a debt-for-equity swap deal with its creditors to settle some P18 billion in maturing obligations.

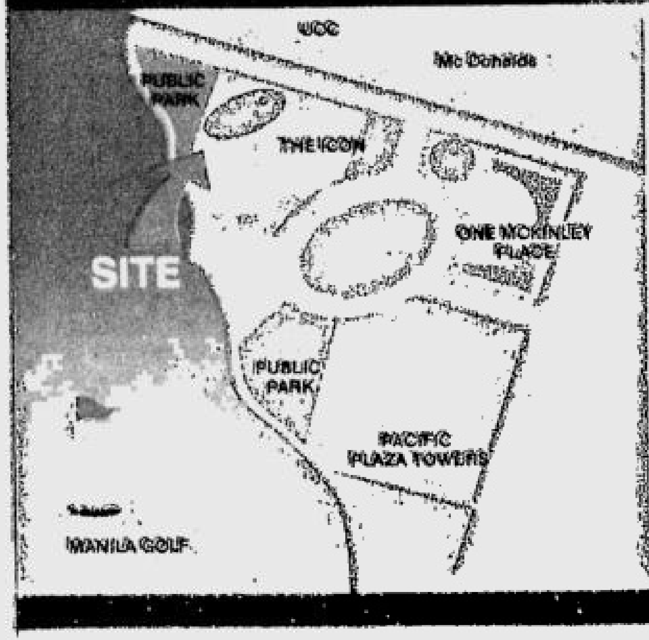
Maynilad's bank creditors have refused a debt-for-equity swap deal and opted to get paid within the next seven years or so.

Maynilad's new tariff rate took effect in January. Since then, the water firm's customers have been paying an additional P30.19 per cubic meter.

The tariff would generate an additional revenue of up to P3 billion for the firm.

Although the company lacks the capability to acquire new commercial loans due to its pending rehabilitation, Maynilad's tariff adjustment "will ensure that the capital expenditure program of the company will be in place," an MWSS official earlier said.





Only from the primest location at the Bonifacio Global City

The ICON
Residences Across Manila Golf

ownership starts at P11,650 per month

Developer
xcell
Property Ventures, Inc.

For inquiries please call us
687.3190 ● 687.3191,
(0917) 884.4226 ● (0917) 882.9235
for announcement purposes only

Sales and Markerting
GREEN ICON Inc.
Real Estate Sales & Marketing

# Unchanged, VAT bill seen to weaken RP power sector

**By Abigail L. Ho**

PROVISIONS contained in the controversial bill on the value-added tax, particularly those pertaining to the energy sector, must be modified if the Philippines hopes to stay on the map of potential investors, according to the Foreign Chambers of the Philippines.

Members of the group also urged lawmakers to consider the effects of the VAT provisions on the country's investment climate.

In a statement issued over the weekend, the group said that the "no pass through" provision for the petroleum and power sectors, which would require oil firms and power producers to absorb the additional tax, would definitely dampen investor interest in the country.

For the power sector, the group said this "onerous" provision could spell death for some of the country's independent power producers.

These provisions will not only discourage new domestic and foreign investment in generation facilities, "it may also erode their taxable income and long-term financial viability, forcing some IPPs to close, thus reducing the supply of power," the group said.

The foreign chambers warned that the closure of some IPPs might come at a time when the country needed electricity the most.

The "no pass through" provision, the group added, violated the very principle of the VAT.

The group claimed that the provision turned the VAT system into a gross receipts tax that would be slapped on top of the corporate income tax.

"For many covered companies, these provisions will cancel out most or all profits and force layoffs and closures," the group pointed out.

The foreign chambers also warned the government of the fiscal and legal implications of the "no pass through" provision. The group raised the possibility that some IPPs might invoke the buyout clause of their contracts, as well as contest the constitutionality of enforcing such a provision.

A provision in the IPP contracts states that if they will not be allowed to pass on new taxes, a default situation can be triggered with their creditors.

Should this happen, the buyout clause on the IPP contracts could be applied, forcing the government to buy out $27 billion worth of contracts.

The IPP contracts have government guarantees, which means that the government will have to absorb the IPPs' liabilities in the event of a default.

Power plants are usually 75-percent debt-financed and 25-percent equity-funded.

The IPPs could also opt to initiate arbitration proceedings.

If the arbitration goes in favor of the IPPs, the government will then have to honor the sanctity of its contracts and shell out huge amounts in the process.

In an earlier interview, Senate President Franklin Drilon admitted that the government was not prepared to shoulder that big an amount.

He said that before the IPPs decide to invoke the buyout clause of their contracts, they should first seek the Supreme Court's opinion on whether the "no pass through" provision, particularly the clause on non-infringement of existing contracts, touched on a constitutional issue.

The foreign chambers raised the issue of constitutionality, citing a part of the VAT bill that says: "Specific provisions in contracts that are contrary to the implementation of this law are hereby declared null and void."

"This language violates the important sanctity of contracts principle found both in the Philippine Constitution and international law," the group claimed.

life. A celebration of vitality. Unilever
Unilever shares how you can live life to the fullest.
See supplement inside.

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
BUSINESS Monday
Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

## APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY

# Creating change by harping on the good

**By Angela Blardony Ureta**
*Contributor*

WHEN was the last time you gifted someone with a sincere and generous compliment? What are the qualities that make you a valuable member of your organization? Can you recall an incident that made you truly proud to be a Filipino? How does it feel to look at the persons around you with an appreciative eye?

Appreciation means more than just being thankful for a favor received. It means approval, admiration, a positive reception—to look at the value of everyone and everything, in any situation. It is the affirmation we need to continue doing what is good and noble. However, what we need most is often that which is the most difficult for us to give.

### Negaholics

Developing an appreciative eye is not easy when living in a culture that is predisposed to negativity. Turn on the TV or leaf through the newspapers: You will immediately be assaulted by sensory abuse—all the dissent, the pessimism and fear-mongering you can digest in one pathetic sitting. Small wonder why our bright young professionals are leaving in droves.

Who wants to be around when our political system breaks down or the economy is hurled into limbo? Good news is rare. And with the constant repetition of how bad things are—which is precisely the message we get every time we read about the ineptitude and corruption in government, terrorism, street crimes, or even show biz scandals glamorized into real life dramas.

"*Wala na talagang pag-asa* (It's a basket case!)," we find ourselves repeating with a customary sigh. It has become a collective mantra that further plunges us into the grim beyond, for this hopelessness has become a self-fulfilling prophecy. We think, therefore we are.

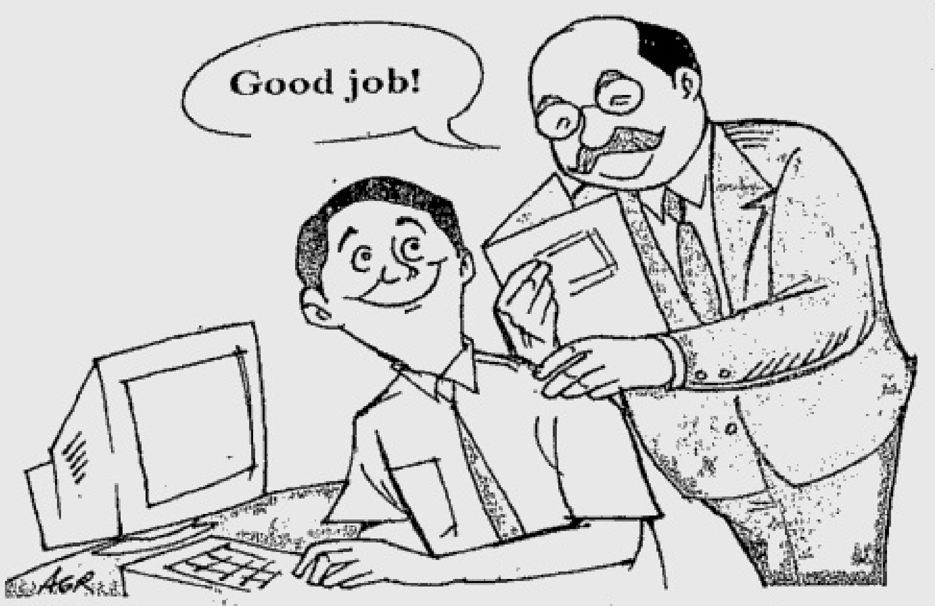
### Pygmalion effect

Author and life coach Jillian Sewers of the Corporation for Positive Change attributes this to a variation of the Pygmalion effect, a principle familiar to most child psychologists.

"If a country, organization or individual keeps hearing or thinking about how ill they are, the group of individuals will begin to behave as if they are in fact ill," she points out. "Where attention goes, energy flows."

Now if the same attention was drawn towards another aspect of life, where we consciously seek out what actually works and to find ways to generate more of that—what happens then? We would flourish.

Just as plants tend to bloom more when openly praised, human beings desire affirmation and esteem. We want to know that we are engaged in something virtuous because it is in our nature to be good. Even when we are often told we are not.



### Language of deficits

"We have to replace our culture of blame," says educator Rebecca Ortega, who has worked in the field of human resources and organizational management for over two decades.

Most Filipinos, she explains, grew up in an environment that focuses a lot on fault-finding and reprimand.

"You attract the most attention when you make mistakes. Over the years, we have effectively created a vocabulary of deficits which we now use to refer to ourselves and to each other."

Such terms as "dysfunctional," "alienated," "paranoid," "low self-esteem" and other similar descriptions refer to individual or organizational weaknesses that have become part of an ever-expanding list of negative labels used on persons or groups that cannot function according to accepted standards or who are unable to meet expectations.

When applied to human resource management, they comprise the points targeted for problem solving. Traditionally, such an approach would entail identifying what went wrong and coming up with a measure to correct it.

Today, there is a new and daring method that asks the question "What is working well here?" and then poses the challenge "Let's have more of that."

### Attentive eye

Appreciative Inquiry (AI) has been defined as "an approach to change within organizations that truly respects people, acknowledges achievements, appreciates the beat within the status quo, and yet encourages people to dream and build for a better tomorrow."

Developed and pioneered by Professor David Cooperrider, faculty head of the Weatherhead School of Management at the Case Western University in Ohio, USA, AI tackles change management with the initial belief that there is innate good in the core of every person or organization.

Participants in training workshops are guided into remembering and appreciating past successes, whether in a group or personal context, thereby creating positive and synergistic energy—one that enables people to feel a sense of commitment and

CREATING/ B2-2

You take care of business, we take care of you.

Our function rooms and business center cater to your every need... for your corporate meetings, business presentations, seminars, conferences...
Your business is our pleasure.

The Legend Villas is an ideal home for your business, with varied- sized function rooms to choose from. We have the latest audio-visual equipment, peripheral business machines, wireless fidelity connectivity, broadband Internet & efficient secretarial services. Enjoy a virtual Business Center that enables Internet access in almost all areas of the hotel. Doing business has never been more pleasurable.

Home sweet ~~home~~ Legend.
*Tuloy po kayo...*

The Legend Villas

60 Pioneer corner [illegible] Street, Mandaluyong City, Philippines 1550
Trunklines: (632)6331501 to 10 Facsimile: [illegible] 320845 [illegible]

Owned & Managed by
Legend Hotels International Corp.

ADDVANTAGE Time Deposit
Take ADDvantage & Enjoy the Time of Your Life!
• Fixed High Interest Earnings • Flexible Placement Terms • Plus Added Benefits
Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation Maximum Deposit Insurance of Each Depositor P250,000
Take ADDvantage at your nearest Maybank branch today or call 521-7451 or visit our website at www.maybank2u.com
Maybank

# How to rig government procurement

**MAPping THE FUTURE**

*Manuel A. Alcuaz Jr*

GRAFT and corruption in the Philippines is in the news again. We are now ranked as the 2nd most corrupt country in South East Asia.

The government response is that this ranking is not credible since we now have RA 9184 or the "Government Procurement Reform Act." It is often said that we have many good laws, but implementation is wanting. I have bad news. We do have bad laws, and RA 9184 is among the worst.

The law has a good Declaration of Policy and Governing Principles.

Sec 2. Declaration of Policy - It is the declared policy of the State to promote the ideals of good governance in all its branches, departments, agencies, subdivisions, and instrumentalities, including government-owned and/or controlled corporations, and local government units.

Sec 3. Governing Principles on Government Procurement - All procurement of the national government, its departments, bureaus, offices and agencies, including state universities and colleges, government-owned and/or controlled corporations, government financial institutions and local government units, shall, in all cases, be governed by these principles:

a) transparency
b) competitiveness
c) streamlined procurement process
d) system of accountability for public officials and private parties
e) public monitoring of the procurement and the implementation of awarded contracts

When the law was passed, Congress claimed that the new law would save billions. Perhaps if it were really effective, we would now have a balanced budget and no need to increase the VAT from 10 to 12 percent.

Section 32 and 34 of the law provide that for goods and infrastructure projects, the bids will be ranked according to price. The bidder who passes all the criteria at the lowest price will be the winner.

So will the government save money? Is this the end for the dishonest bidder with inferior products and a willingness to share his shameful profits through wining, dining, pimping, and outright bribery?

Unfortunately, corrupt vendors and public officials seem to have more cunning or clever minds than our lawmakers.

RA 9184 and the Implementing Rules and Regulations have many good features, but the law was rushed without sufficient hearings. As a result, it looks like a massive fortress against corruption, but with a few gaping holes that the enemy can use to rig major government procurements.

If the law states that the award should go to the lowest bidder, how do corrupt officials and vendors make money?

By making devious use of Section 30, which states, Preliminary Examination of Bids - Prior to Bid evaluation, the BAC shall examine first the technical components of the bids using "pass/fail" criteria to determine whether all required documents are present. Only bids that are determined to contain all the bid requirements of the technical component shall be considered for opening and evaluation of their financial component.

The provision for the BAC to put pass or fail criteria makes it possible for corrupt officials and a corrupt vendor to rig the bid, by inserting tailored pass or fail criteria to eliminate other vendors who may be able to offer superior products at a lower cost.

In the case of the Armed Forces rifle acquisition one such requirement appears to be that the assault weapon should be both magazine and belt fed. This requirement eliminated most other vendors except FNH, which almost got away with selling us a $5,088 rifle (P284,928).

Belt feed is not used for light assault rifles. It is good for heavy machine guns.

Then there's Section 36, which states that a single calculated/rated and responsive bid shall be considered for award.

That is the final provision of the law that facilitates the rigging of most government procurements.

In the past, there was a need for at least three qualified bidders to make it more difficult for anomalous bids to be engineered. But RA 9184 has delivered the complete facility for anomalous procurement to the crooks.

Section 32 is one of the worst provisions of the law. Not only does it make it possible to procure at the highest cost rather than at the lowest price. It also makes it impossible to make an honest choice between alternative bids for infrastructure projects and complex goods such as fire trucks, construction equipment, and computer systems.

This provision was inserted in the bill by a naïve, well meaning NGO who was thinking of bids for standard goods such as diesel, bond paper, and other commodities.

Let us consider the case of selecting accounting software. How does one compare QuickBooks, Microsoft Great Plains, and SAP and choose the most cost-effective alternative.

One must be able to specify desirable (not pass or fail) criteria and rate the three alternatives according to functionality, ease of use, reliability, expandability, etc.

There will be some subjectivity on the part of evaluators. To make it difficult to insert bias, the rating for each vendor, criteria, and members of the BAC should be published on the Internet. Transparency is the best weapon against corruption.

Section 33 provides for rating of alternative bidders for consulting services. It provides for evaluation and rating in accordance with evaluation criteria, which includes experience, performance, quality of personnel, price and methodology. So if subjective rating for consultants can work, why won't it work for infrastructure projects and goods?

If we are serious about fighting corruption and avoiding a financial crisis, the procurement reform law must be amended.

*(The article reflects the personal opinion of the author and does not reflect the official stand of the Management Association of the Philippines. The author is co-chair of the MAP ICT Committee and President of Systems Sciences Consult, Inc. Feedback at map@globenet.com.ph)*

---

# 3 of top 20 RP firms managed by Mapuans

THE "I am Proud to be a Mapuan!" Movement of the Mapua Institute of Technology recently honored its alumni who have the distinction of managing companies in the Top 20 Philippine Corporations with The Outstanding Mapuan (TOM) Award.

Recipients of the award are Metrobank president Antonio S. Abacan Jr., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. 2003 country chair Eliseo B. Santiago and Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines, Inc. president Roberto N. Huang. Both Santiago and Huang are degree holders in Mechanical Engineering while Abacan is a Business Administration graduate.

Also in the list of outstanding Mapuans are Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) senior vice president for Network Services Group George Lim and Petron Corporation Bataan Refinery vice president and general manager Alfred Trio.

According to a statement issued by the movement via executive director Cesar D. Castro, Mapua prides itself for remaining true to its image as one of the top architectural, engineering and industrial management/technology educational institution in the country.

"This is evidenced by the fact that most of the top engineers and chief technology officers of other top Philippine corporations happen to be graduates of Mapua," said Castro.

---

Holcim

eye
Education for Youth Enterprise Foundation Inc.

# EYE Foundation launches WIWAG® in the Philippines

The Education for Youth Enterprise (EYE) Foundation, Inc. recently launched the WIWAG Business Weeks, one of the Corporate Social Responsibility flagship programs of Holcim Philippines, Inc.

WIWAG was developed by the Ernst Schmidheiny Foundation in cooperation with the Institute for Economic Education of the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. WIWAG is a computer-assisted business simulation game to teach college students how to manage a company by enhancing their understanding of the functions and interrelations of Finance, Human Resources, Research and Development, Production, and Marketing and Sales.

Created to help companies and schools implement WIWAG in the Philippines, the EYE Foundation kicked off the launch with a "Train the Trainors" course in Tagaytay City from April 11 to 15, 2005. Course participants were volunteers from corporate partners, Mirant Philippines, Pilipinas Shell Foundation, Nestle Philippines, United Coconut Planters Bank-CIIF Foundation, Petron Corporation, Philippine Business for Social Progress, PHINMA Foundation Inc., Punla sa Tao, Development Bank of the Philippines, Roxas Gargollo Foundation, Sarmiento Foundation Inc., SPI Foundation, ABS-CBN Bayan, Refracore Corporation, IMC International Management Consulting, and the League of Corporate Foundation.

The course participants become certified WIWAG instructors who will begin transferring their know-how and practical experience to student-participants in a series of WIWAG student training programs to be held from April 18 to 22 in Iligan City and Bulacan, and from April 25 to 29 in Davao City and La Union.

A new dimension in business education
WIWAG® Launch
April 15, 2005

The WIWAG principals signing the Memorandum of Agreement, from left: Ms. Jocelyn J. Perez, EYE Foundation President; Mr. Paul O' Callaghan, COO of Holcim Philippines; and Mr. Hans Goestch of the Ernst Schmidheiny Foundation.

The Honorable Liz Fabre, Swiss Ambassador to the Philippines (seated fourth from left), with WIWAG principals, trainors and representatives from program partners.

For inquiries:

Elaine Mapa
Executive Director
EYE Foundation
L3 PHINMA Plaza
39 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center
Makati City 1211, Philippines

Phone (02) 870 0165
(02) 898 1980
Fax no. (02) 870 0498

Interested companies can participate in WIWAG by sponsoring student training in their school of choice and volunteering managers to become trainors.

---

# Creating . . .

From page B2-1

confidence. They have been successful and they can create more success.

The key to drawing out an affirmative response, according to Ortega, lies in how the questions are framed. Thus, the "inquiry" aspect, where the challenge is in creating and posing questions that can elicit positive values and creative solutions. "One of the skills you have to learn in using the AI approach is asking positive but provocative questions.

On dealing with the issue of laziness, for instance, instead of putting in a lot of time tracing the conditions that contribute to one's lack of enthusiasm or drive, an AI trainer would lead the participants to ask: "When did I last feel alive, energetic, inspired, tireless? What were the factors involved? Who was there? What did I do, say, feel? What can I do now that I can recreate that enthusiasm?"

## Basic assumptions

There are eight basic assumptions on which the Appreciative Inquiry approach is based:

1) In every society, organization or group, something works. No human being or organization is a total disaster. Everyone has something special or unique about him. Realizing and reinforcing this quality, however, needs both recognition and repetition.

2) What we focus on becomes our reality. As Ortega says, "Whatever story you keep repeating in your mind, that's what your life becomes."

3) Reality is created in the moment, and there are "multiple realities" or various perceptions of a situation. To discuss a situation with another person clarifies one's perception of a reality and can be an enriching experience. When there is difficulty, I need not always blame others. I can view myself as part of the problem that needs to be fixed or as a complex human being evolving positively everyday. "I don't see the world as it really is, I see the world as I really am," or so the saying goes.

4) Appreciative Inquiry is simply a heart-to-heart conversation. The act of asking questions of an organization or group influences the group in some way. However, questions must be framed positively instead of focusing on the problem. For instance, a victim of sexual abuse need be asked to recall the trauma. Instead, the question should be: When was the last time you were given respect as an individual?

5) People have more confidence to journey into the future (the unknown) when they carry forward parts of the past (the known). If I can concentrate on what brought about my previous accomplishments, I develop more confidence in my ability to thrive in new situations.

6) Knowing my strengths is vital. If I carry forward parts of the past, they should be the best parts. Wasting energy on what could have been drains us and keeps us locked in regret. Take the best, leave the rest and keep on moving.

7) It is important to value individual differences. If we believe that people have their own understanding of a reality, then we should not feel threatened in letting each person be whatever they choose to be, or see whatever they choose to see. In every family or group, individuals have their own stories to tell about a certain reality. We should learn to appreciate these differences and challenge basic assumptions of truths.

8) The language we use creates our reality, too. Negative terms reveal negative thought patterns. Change your mental and verbal script into something constructive and watch your life story change!

*(For details on Appreciative Inquiry, contact Rebecca Ortega at 0915-435-3228 or 8907960.)*

# Goodbye colonial mentality, hello global economy

**By Minyong Ordoñez**
*Contributor*

COLONIAL mentality is dead. We can kiss it goodbye.

Sociologists and historians blame colonial mentality as the devil incarnate who instigated our inferiority complex, lack of racial integrity and proclivity for thinking small.

Surprise! Nationalism which raged for decades in front of the US Embassy and in the halls of Congress, did not kill colonial mentality.

Globalism did it! This new business and financial order delivered the death blow to colonial mentality.

## Globalism did it

Globalism is the new economic *ism* born of the cost of doing business which created a critical mass of manufacturers and consumers on a global scale so dominant the *ism* became the paradigm shift. Globalism cuts forcibly across country barriers and boundaries.

Coaxed by the speed and reach of the all-encroaching information technology, the needs for food, convenience, leisure and pleasure of people all over the world are undergoing a fast-track journey toward consumer homogenization.

Against globalism, nationalism seems neatpicking.

We must admit, though, that our lifestyle change and taste upgrade happen during the decades of American rule (1900-1947).

As a bratty kid in the late 1930's, I demanded for *pasalubong* from my mother only Hershey's Kisses from New Jersey and Wrigley's Chewing Gum from Chicago.

My appetite for branded and packaged confectionery from the US of A, sidelined *maruya* and *palitaw*, made fresh daily by little of ladies in my hometown.

## Colonial mentality nostalgia

On the household level, everyone enjoys either a can of sautéed Libby's Corned Beef from Chicago, or Portola Sardines in tomato sauce from Monterey, California.

To push colonial mentality to a ridiculous extreme, the Dumagat tribe in Sierra Madre used the fishy-can smell as status symbol by rubbing the oily sauce on their hair to signal scent allure.

The hermetically sealed can was the fantastic ready-to-eat food in households where refrigerator was nonexistent and the *palengke* day for fresh fish and meat needs was limited to once-a-week occurrence.

On a personal status level, I recall my uncle Guillermo's new Florsheim Shoes bought in Escolta in the early '40s. He wore them going to Sunday Mass and the shoes were the talk of the town: Florsheim *yata'yan*!

Another uncle, Elfren, was reprimanded for watching a Greta Garbo film at the Ideal Theater while the wake of his father was in progress at Funeraria Nacional. Uncle Elfren fantasized on Greta Garbo's silky white skin, blond hair and *matangos na ilong*.

On the hacendero level, the chug-chuging Model T Ford left dust on the *hoi polloi*, making a statement on the gap between the rich and the poor and demonstrating the superiority of engine-run automobile versus the slowpoke *karetela*.

## More, more, more

Recall 1945, when the American soldiers, led by Gen. Douglas MacArthur, liberated Manila. The streets were lined up with people, haggard and hungry from years of food scarcity and deprivation. They yelled jubilantly, "Victory Joe! Victory Joe!"

From their six-by-six trucks and Eisenhower jeeps, American soldiers showered the crowd with American goodies-Hershey's chocolate bars and Wrigley's chewing gum and Lucky Strike cigarettes.

From army surplus food depots flowed canned corned beef, luncheon meat, pork and beans, and sardines to satisfy the terrible cravings of Filipinos for American canned foods, after being deprived of them for five hungry years of Japanese rule.

In the '60s all the way to the '70s import control heightened the desire for American brands. The PX goods business thrived in Dao, Pampanga, courtesy of US servicemen from Clark Field making *palusot*.

In the '80s, shopping for imported goods at the Duty Free Shop was the ultimate pleasure a Saudi worker could give his wife and children.

Today a *balikbayan* box is still filled with American buys from K-Mart bargain bins as *pasalubong*.

## It's politics

Consumerism, however, is not the main cause of colonial mentality. Power politics is.

The seeds of colonialism were planted during the age of exploration, when the advanced civilizations with great maritime power underwent a search for knowledge and adventure beyond their shores. These explorers took it upon themselves to plant their systems for the idyllic natives in distant lands deemed in need of social and political civilizing.

The exploitative acts simply followed and greed reared its ugly head, no matter how the colonialists sugarcoated their unfair trade practices.

In the Philippines, US colonization was double-edged, because the adaptation of American system of education was first on the agenda. The moment we started to write, read and speak English our affinity with the United States developed. Our English-language skill allowed us access to the language and structure of democratic governance, efficient civil service, practice of trade and commerce, arts and literature. We became the only English-speaking country in Asia and the first to adopt a democratic government, patterned after the American model.

A few of our nationalist politicians, however, were outspoken in defending Philippine sovereignty. Our pre-World War II president, Manuel Luis Quezon, piqued at American bully tactics said, "I will rather have a government run like hell by Filipinos than a government run like heaven by Americans!"

Another brilliant nationalist, Sen. Claro M. Recto, condemned in the halls of Congress exploitative treaties which violated Filipino rights.

## Green card and TNTs

What about migrants, green-card holders and TNTs? Are they afflicted with colonial mentality? Not quite. Poor economy and lousy governance are the main culprits. Lack of equal opportunities and next to impossible access to middle-class lifestyle (a suburban home with a two-car garage, a double door ref filled with Walmart shoppers list, travels for the whole family) drove millions of struggling people from many countries of the world to seek better lives for their families in America.

Nationalism has one impracticality. You can't eat it.

On the bright side, Philippine brands have emerged as genuine global brands because of their world-class quality, the most famous of them all, Jollibee and San Miguel Beer. Other brands such as URC's Jack & Jill chips and Crème-O are now Asian brands available in Thailand, Hong Kong and Vietnam. Bench and Kamiseta, brands of casual fashion, have made inroads in China. Mandaue crafted furniture are the toast of interior decorators in North America. Mindanao's bananas and pineapples and Guimaras' mangoes are the favorites in Japan, China and other European countries.

I still enjoy Hershey's Kisses. But with global economy my repertoire of delicious eats has widened since then to include Thai kwi tiew, Indian tandoori, Mexican fajitas, Vietnamese rolls, Mediterranean shawarma, Italian panini, Japanese sushi and other delectables at Santi's Delicatessen. And, of course, *puto bumbong* and *pitsi-pitsi*.

Hence, I'm now a globalist consumer. Not (pardon the pun) a mental colony.

*(The author is chair of Publicis Manila)*

# New pizza place opens

THE PIZZA Company, recently opened its first store in the Philippines at the 2nd level main entrance of Market! Market! Fort Bonifacio, Taguig.

Jovie Sabado, general manager of Alpha 8 Food Holdings Corp., proudly says, "Today, The Pizza Co. has become the leading pizza brand for four consecutive years in the international market.

Its success can be contributed to its in-depth knowledge and experience of the local market and continuous efforts to provide customers with fresh and innovative pizza approach based on richer and heavier toppings, an appealing new cheese blend of top quality, and finally passion for service excellence that meets up with international standard. This is the same formula that will be applied here in the Philippines."

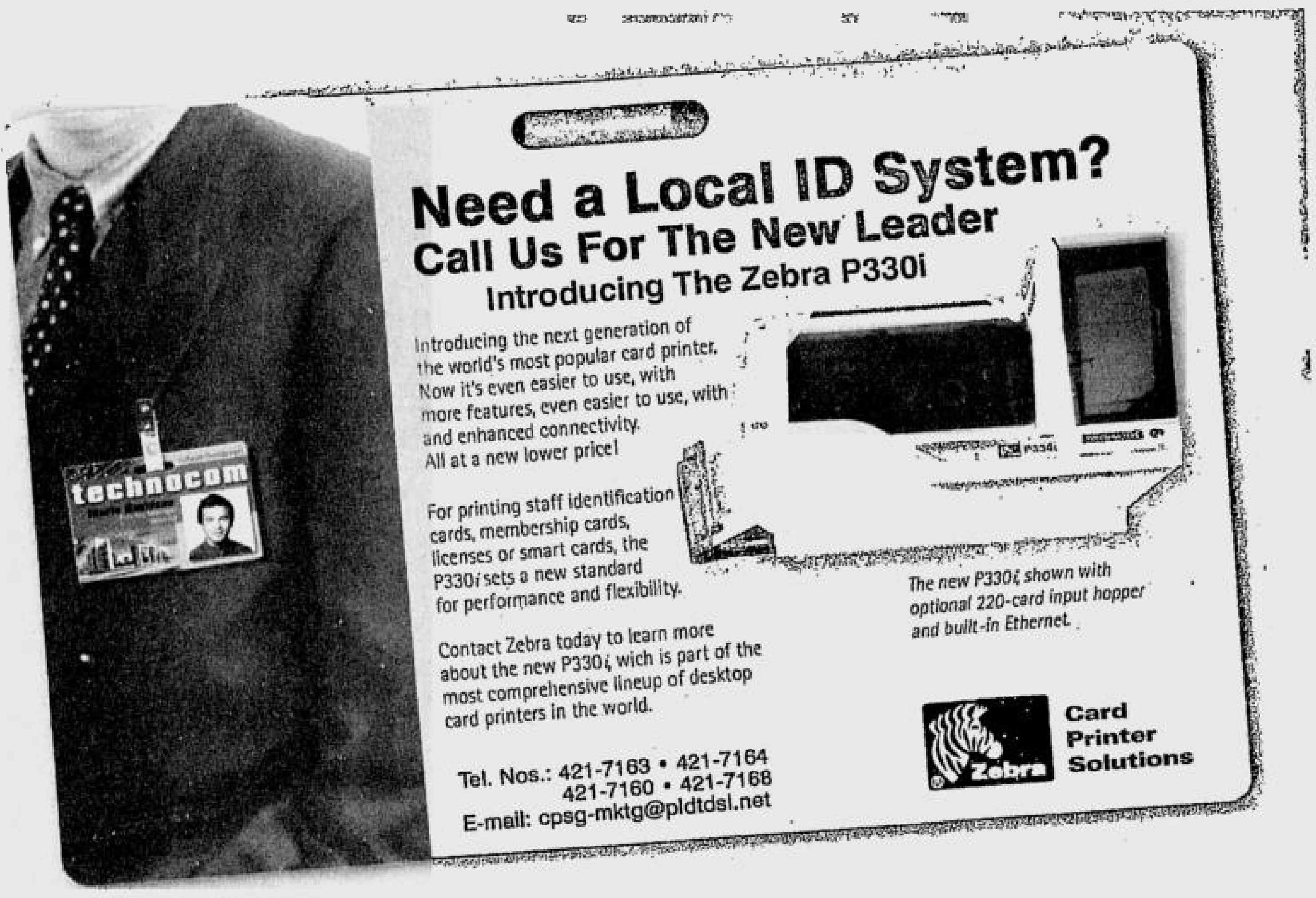
Its brand positioning is "Flavored to Excite."

"At The Pizza Company, we are not just a general pizza restaurant. The Pizza Experience anchored on a pleasurable casual dining experience. Store design evokes casual and fun ambience where friends and family can enjoy a variety of traditional and innovative pizza creations. We also prepare salads and cook pasta fresh in an open area behind the counter. Anyone who cares to watch is welcome," stated Efrain Pelaez, President of Alpha 8 Food Holdings Corp., the local operator of the brand.

"We are a very exciting brand and highly research-driven to adapt menu to match trends and local preferences. We recognize that global tastes vary considerably, and a menu that suits one country may have less appeal in another," William Heinecke, chair of Minor Group said.

For example, we developed the Tom Yum Kung Pizza especially for Thailand, as it is intrinsic to their cuisine, we are very pleased with the great success it has enjoyed. We hope to create a Philippine specialty in the future.

Alpha 8 intends to open 50 outlets within the Metro Manila area.



Need a Local ID System?
Call Us For The New Leader
Introducing The Zebra P330i

Introducing the next generation of the world's most popular card printer. Now it's even easier to use, with more features, even easier to use, with and enhanced connectivity. All at a new lower price!

For printing staff identification cards, membership cards, licenses or smart cards, the P330i sets a new standard for performance and flexibility.

Contact Zebra today to learn more about the new P330i, wich is part of the most comprehensive lineup of desktop card printers in the world.

The new P330i, shown with optional 220-card input hopper and built-in Ethernet.

Tel. Nos.: 421-7163 • 421-7164
421-7160 • 421-7168
E-mail: cpsg-mktg@pldtdsl.net

Zebra Card Printer Solutions

Fast cash for your quick needs!
REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
1000
CY673322
SANLIBONG PISO

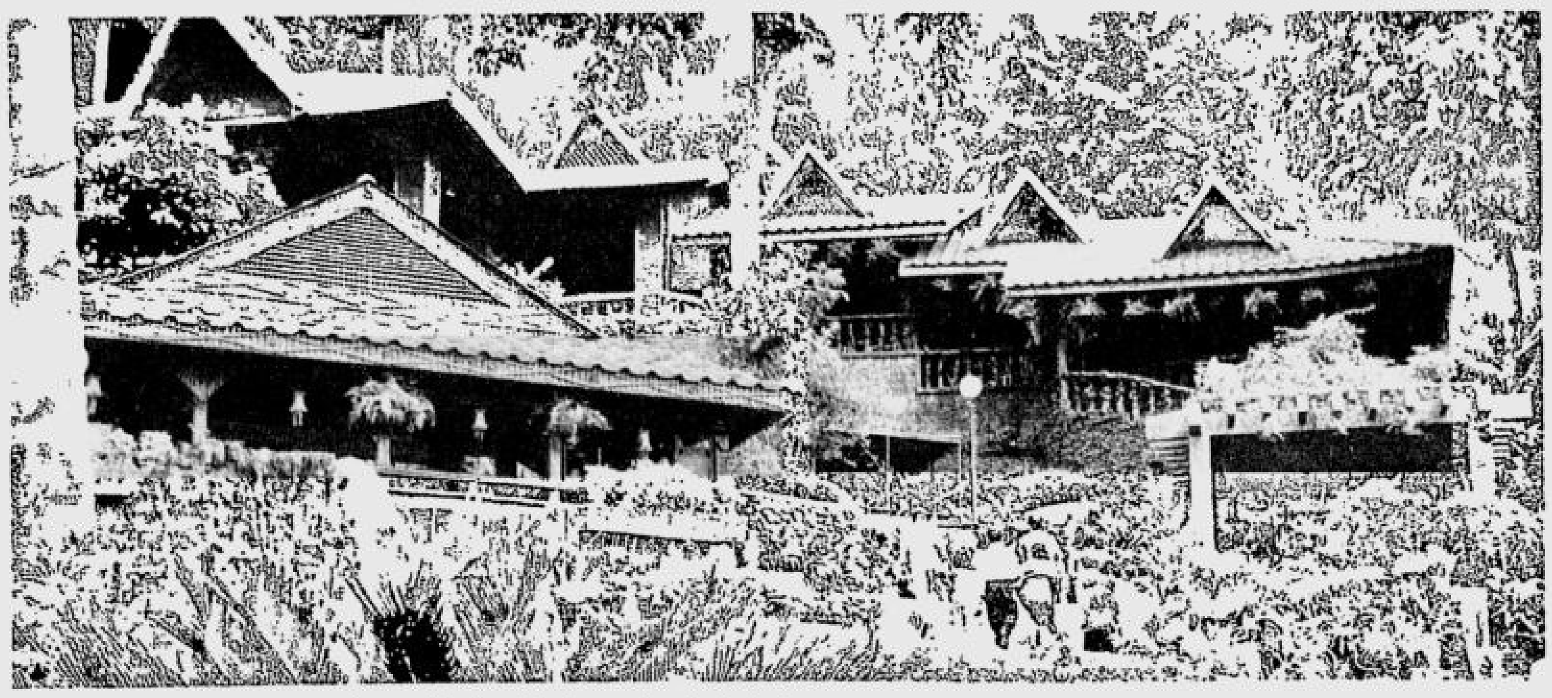
PLANTERSBANK
HandyCredit

The personal loan that you'd love to lay your hands on!

- INSTANT CASH LOAN worth ₱30,000 to ₱1 Million
- INSTALLMENT PLAN CHOICE of 6, 12, 18, 24, 30 or 36 months
- FAST APPLICATION PROCESSING TIME of 2 days upon submission of all requirements
- FRIENDLY INTEREST RATES
- NO COLLATERALS needed

GET THE UPPER HAND NOW!
CALL (02) 750-3000, business hours, Monday to Friday.
www.plantersbank.com.ph

PLANTERSBANK
Planters Development Bank
The Bank for Small and Medium Enterprises
Member of Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation Maximum Deposit Insurance for each Depositor ₱250 000 00
BancNet
Plantersbank Building, 314 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., 1200 Makati City Philippines • Tel. No.: (02) 887-1000; (02) 812-1091



**EXOTIK** Restaurant was named one of the best landscaped eateries in Laguna

PHOTOS BY JEROME DUMLAO

**SKILLS** of Paete artisans are showcased throughout the restaurant

# Export venture gives birth to 'Exotik' landmark in South

**By Tina Arceo-Dumlao**

IT WAS supposed to be just a place to relax in after putting in long hours in the export business.

But destiny had other plans.

In the nearly seven years since partners Elmoise Afurong and Roy Ema bought the one-hectare property along Brgy. Longos, Kalayaan, Laguna, it has metamorphosed from a barren patch of hilly land into the award-winning Exotik restaurant that no trip to eastern Laguna can do without.

Afurong, a former mayor of his hometown, Paete, says in jest that the restaurant grew because of his lucky African boa, Samantha, which has become Exotik's mascot of sorts.

But it was really because of the passion that the partners and the 60-odd employees put into making Exotik the best restaurant it could be, and a tourism gateway to their beloved province.

Like other successful ventures, Exotik started small.

"We bought the property because the seller was really insistent. We thought of making it just a resthouse with a little souvenir shop to sell some of our products. The buyers of the souvenirs, however, asked if there was some place they could eat and drink. When we determined that there were a lot of these people looking for a place to eat, we thought of putting up a restaurant," says Afurong.

Though they had no experience in running a restaurant, they did know about business, having run a Paete-based export company that produces handbags and fashion accessories with wooden accents for the US market.

Afurong used part of his retirement fund from an insurance company and proceeds from the export company to bankroll his and Ema's project.

They hired cooks and waiters, and the first 70-seater restaurant opened in December 1997.

Afurong and Ema designed the restaurant themselves, and worked on the natural contours of the property. The result is a restaurant that is as much known for its "exotic" food, such as deer, frogs and stingrays and eel, as the landscape.

"We made the most of the available materials and we improved on the property. Every year, we have something new. It is the least we can do considering that people travel far just to get to our place," Afurong says.

Today, Exotik can seat about 500 and the place is a profusion of local, colorful plants with five waterfall accents. A separate pavilion has been added to cater to the growing requests for an intimate place for weddings and debuts.

It is a Hall of Fame Awardee for the cleanest and best landscaped restaurant in Laguna.

**ELMO** Afurong, the creative force behind Exotik

"We really love nature and it was a joy to work on the property," Ema says.

Frequently ordered items on the menu, consisting mostly of Filipino food, are grilled food, pansit, fried chicken soaked in a special marinade for 24 hours, and sinigang.

Of course, the craftsmanship that Paete people are famous for are found all over the property. Especially so in the souvenir shop that sells not only Afurong and Ema's products, but also those of other Paete woodworkers.

"Our vision is to make this a tourist area and to employ a lot of the locals and let them know that going abroad is not the only option left for them," Afurong says.

Ema is at Exotik seven days a week to make sure that guests are treated well, and he does not consider it a chore.

"I love my work and I like seeing people come and I listen to their suggestions. When I see them having a good time, I already feel happy," Ema says. (For inquiries, call 049-8200086/049-8170255)

THE LEADER CONTINUES TO DOMINATE THE INDUSTRY WITH ITS P30 BILLION TOTAL FUND SIZE.

BPI (FUND MANAGER) IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT ALFM REMAINS THE LEADER IN THE COUNTRY'S MUTUAL FUND INDUSTRY WITH A P30 BILLION FUND SIZE AS OF MARCH 2005. Moreover, ALFM has continued to outperform its benchmark 91-day TBill with its 7.63% net ROI for 2004, continuing to provide the consistent superior returns that it has become known for.

Beyond doubt, this is proof that you can get the best possible investment yields, only from the Philippines' biggest mutual fund—ALFM.

ALFM

The Investors' No. 1 Choice

To invest, please feel free to call any of the telephone numbers listed below:

BPI Capital Corporation
(02) 845-5695 to 98; (02) 744-0758; (02) 929-9002; (02) 842-3327;
(02) 416-7393; (02) 633-3511; (034) 433-9553; (033) 336-1745;
(049) 562-2936; (074) 304-4502; (082) 235-3556

BPI Investment Management, Inc. (02) 845-5033 to 34

BPI Securities Corporation (02) 816-9190 or 9192

A mutual fund is an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in which the investible cash of numerous investors are pooled with the aim of achieving a specific investment objective. MUTUAL FUNDS ARE NOT DEPOSIT PRODUCTS AND, AS SUCH, YIELDS ARE NOT GUARANTEED. Mutual funds are not PDIC-insured. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

## DECOMPOSITIONAL ANALYTICS

# New tool in forecasting profits and losses out

WHAT if you could reduce the time required to confidently estimate campaign profitability from 12 months to six months? Or reduce the error rate of loan loss forecasts to one percent?

In an increasingly competitive consumer lending landscape, forecasting portfolio performance has never been more critical.

Yet traditional forecasting approaches rely largely on historical data and do not accurately measure the many volatile factors that can influence portfolio performance.

As a result, forecasts may fall short or fail to reveal which factors impacted performance.

A handful of leading lenders are now using something called "decompositional analytics" to forecast loss more accurately and to better understand and manage portfolio performance.

This approach, which is quickly becoming synonymous with "best practice in forecasting," is not exactly new.

According to Strategic Analytics, an analytics firm working with MasterCard Advisors, these techniques have been applied to $500 billion in loans over the last five years.

Decompositional analytics dissects performance into its component parts, and quantifies the effect of seasonality and vintage maturation as well as volatile environmental factors on a portfolio. Factors may be multiple possible macroeconomic scenarios, competitors' actions and offerings, and management actions (i.e. credit policy changes or the closing of a collections unit).

A top consumer lending organization seeking to understand the impact of macroeconomic indicators (GDP and unemployment) on portfolio performance was unable to do so due to short data histories and the inability to isolate the impact of management actions on performance.

Using decompositional analytics, it was able to isolate the impact of each performance driver and to create a more accurate economic response model.

### Forecasting as planning tool

The ability to isolate and measure the various components of performance enables the early optimization of marketing campaigns.

For example, a card issuer who can accurately measure the impact of seasonality and discern that an increase in utilization and spend is entirely the result of holiday spending, may gain insights early to optimize the campaign or choose to end an underperforming campaign sooner, replacing it with a better one.

This approach would have been useful during the last recession to the many lenders who tightened credit criteria but continued to see deteriorating performance for new loans.

Decomposition would have shown that poor performance was due to the deteriorating environment rather than the quality of new originations.

Measuring the components of performance more accurately to generate more reliable forecasts and to evaluate portfolio/marketing campaign performance is in itself valuable.

However, with scenario planning forecasting becomes a vital strategic planning tool. The ability to re-forecast performance in different scenarios, by altering the macroeconomic component for example, also provides powerful explanatory capabilities for any performance aberration.

"Stress testing" or simulating the behavior of credit portfolios in different business and macroeconomic scenarios helps lenders take corrective actions early on to make a portfolio more resilient.

Lenders can evaluate, for example, if product pricing is robust enough to withstand a modest slowing in the economy. If not, they can adjust penalty fees and other loan terms to reduce pricing fragility.

The ability to model a portfolio in a changed economic environment and generate an adjusted, more accurate forecast is also critical for maintaining credibility with regulators and the investment community.

The ability to explain why a portfolio performed poorly in a certain region may even be a key factor in preventing stock prices from dipping.

For a handful of leading organizations, scenario planning is becoming a valuable tool in credit policy and marketing plan optimization.

Lenders are generating multiple forecasts to determine the impact of different credit policies on portfolio performance. They are also generating different marketing scenarios - adjusting elements of the marketing plan such as segment mix, product features, and the quality of new accounts - to determine the conditions required to meet targets.

Scenario planning is also useful in forecasting the performance of new products, and in selling or securitizing part or all of a portfolio.

### Consistent view of risk worldwide

Outside the US, consumer credit scores are not always available, making it more challenging to forecast performance, and greater currency and interest rate volatility further compromise traditional analytic methodologies like roll rates.

Decompositional analytics, by contrast, performs better in volatile environments; the greater the volatility, the more easily lenders can strip away the exogenous trends.

Increasingly, global issuers and lenders with portfolios in the US, Europe, Latin America and Asia are using decompositional techniques to measure performance and quantify exposure consistently across diverse geographies and credit products. Some issuers are also creating global Centers of Excellence responsible for providing a unified view of exposure and performance worldwide.

### Leveraging early indicators

Using a common data structure and analytical approach across credit products, organizations can leverage early indicators in one credit product to reduce losses in others.

For example, financial institutions can utilize what they're seeing in their card portfolio as an indicator for what they will see in their auto or loan portfolio in six months—even when the products are issued to different customers.

They can observe whether or not customers are using cards for more frequent cash advances, or more or less frequent purchases; or credit lines, to pay utilities, car loans, or even mortgages.

Unsurprisingly, delinquent behavior typically surfaces first on revolving products such as cards and credit lines, and then on installment products such as car loans and mortgages. Leading lenders are using decompositional techniques to directly quantify the impact of this "hierarchy of payments" which until now has only been an unproven assumption in the industry.

### Implications for big and small lenders

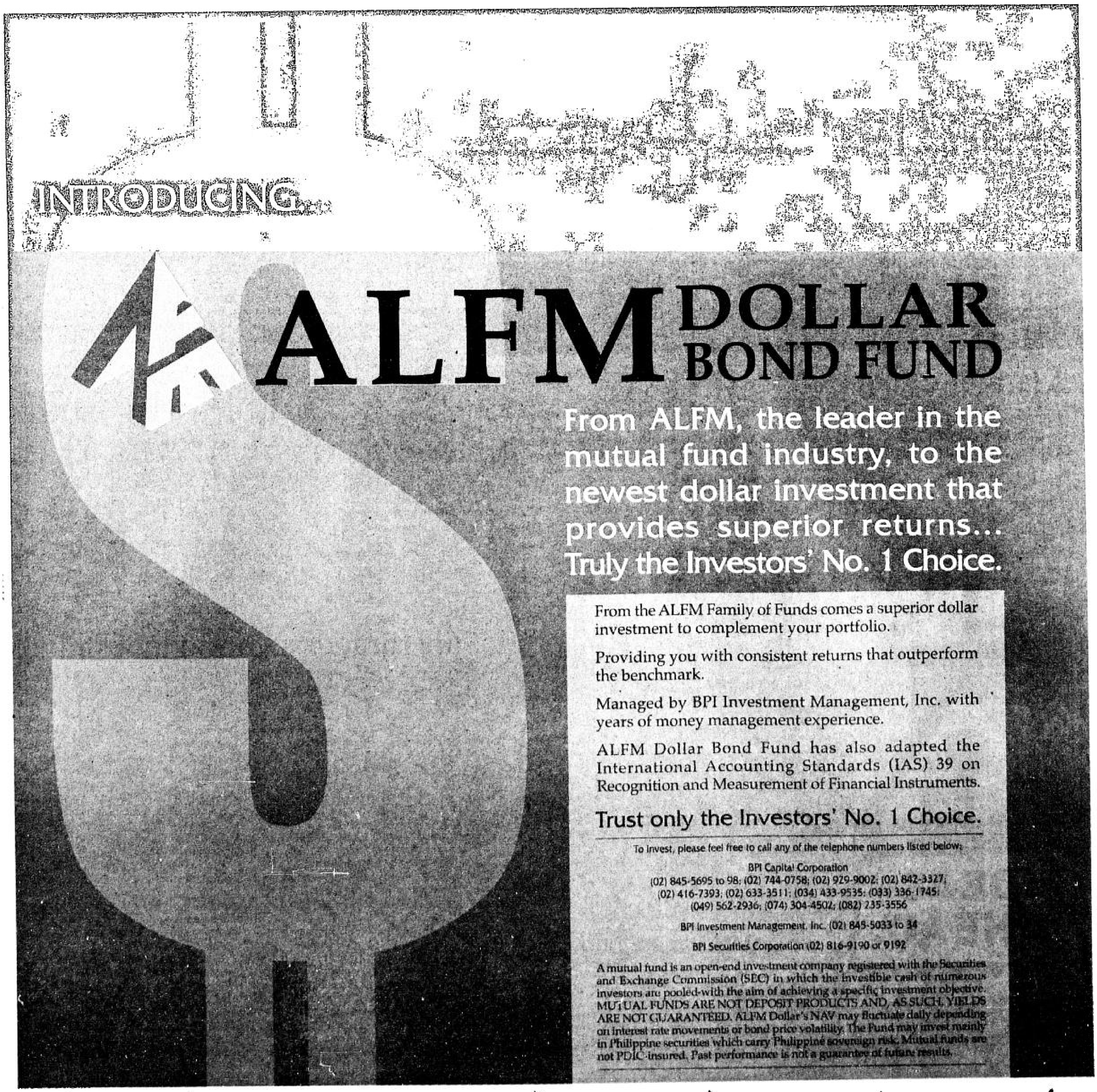
Global lenders can use decompositional analytics to help achieve other objectives as well - to better anticipate and plan for bankruptcy losses, for example, and to comply with Basel II.

Lenders with smaller, less diversified portfolios that are easily impacted by shifts in economic trends can also benefit from a decompositional analytic approach even if they have limited data; a large pool of data is not generally required to generate more accurate forecasts.

Using scenario planning, all lending organizations, regardless of their size, can help ensure the resilience of their portfolios in any economic or business environment, and optimize credit policies and marketing strategies.

In the future, decompositional analytics are likely to become a vital strategic planning tool not only for risk managers, but also for marketing managers, CFOs and others accountable for loan performance and the organization's bottom line.

*(Article written by Robert Sanders, a Global Solutions Leader responsible for Portfolio Analysis and Forecasting at MasterCard Advisors, the consulting division of MasterCard International.)*


INTRODUCING...

ALFM DOLLAR BOND FUND

From ALFM, the leader in the mutual fund industry, to the newest dollar investment that provides superior returns... Truly the Investors' No. 1 Choice.

From the ALFM Family of Funds comes a superior dollar investment to complement your portfolio.

Providing you with consistent returns that outperform the benchmark.

Managed by BPI Investment Management, Inc. with years of money management experience.

ALFM Dollar Bond Fund has also adapted the International Accounting Standards (IAS) 39 on Recognition and Measurement of Financial Instruments.

Trust only the Investors' No. 1 Choice.

To invest, please feel free to call any of the telephone numbers listed below:

BPI Capital Corporation
(02) 845-5695 to 98; (02) 744-0758; (02) 929-9002; (02) 842-3327;
(02) 416-7393; (02) 633-3511; (034) 433-9535; (033) 336-1745;
(049) 562-2936; (074) 304-4502; (082) 235-3556

BPI Investment Management, Inc. (02) 845-5033 to 34

BPI Securities Corporation (02) 816-9190 or 9192

A mutual fund is an open-end investment company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in which the investible cash of numerous investors are pooled with the aim of achieving a specific investment objective. MUTUAL FUNDS ARE NOT DEPOSIT PRODUCTS AND, AS SUCH, YIELDS ARE NOT GUARANTEED. ALFM Dollar's NAV may fluctuate daily depending on interest rate movements or bond price volatility. The Fund may invest mainly in Philippine securities which carry Philippine sovereign risk. Mutual funds are not PDIC-insured. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

# 'Whatever you do has to impact on bottom line'

**By Tina Arceo-Dumlao**

MANAGEMENT STYLES

SINGAPORE national Eddie B.H. Yeo is one of those managers who not only welcomes change, he revels in it.

Thus, it is to Yeo that the Singapore-based Millennium and Copthorne International Ltd. Group often turns to when it needs to make some radical changes in one of its hotels.

Yeo's list of feats includes the S$16-million renovation of the Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore. He was instrumental in repositioning the 34-year-old hotel located along the historical Singapore River into a business hotel.

When that was done, Yeo expected the Millennium group to give him a break from his hectic pace. He thought wrong, for he was given the mandate to jumpstart business at The Heritage Hotel in Manila where he is the general manager.

It was not an unwelcome assignment.

The 57-year-old Yeo tells Business Monday he has been in the Philippines a number of times, thus The Heritage Hotel is not exactly strange to him.

This gives him a bit of a head start to figure out what he needs to do to complete his mission here.

It also helps that he was here in 1979 for a three-month Management Development Program at the Asian Institute of Management, giving him insights into the Filipino way of doing things.

"What I need to do now is add value to the hotel and its customers, and generate revenue. In anything you do, it always has to be about the bottom line and the revenue. There is no other equation," Yeo says.

Yeo, thus, rounded up his people as soon as he got in early this year and told them that they all have to work together to bring business to the hotel considering intense competition in the hospitality market.

The Heritage Hotel has 467 rooms with one level of Millennium Club rooms. Its claim to fame is the "mother of all buffets" at the Riviera restaurant.

"We have already started the repainting, and renovation of some of the rooms. We are also upgrading and building on our banquet business. We have good facilities, we just need to enhance them," Yeo says.

Yeo says it is often a challenge to get management and the employees on the same page when it comes to what they have to do to meet the objectives for the hotel.

He tries to meet that challenge by taking a lot of time out to communicate directly with his staff. Communicating for him means translating his messages into something that the staff can easily relate to. Jargon has no place in his messages.

"I would like to believe that I work well with people. I can turn even the worst person into one of the best. I allow them to raise questions and think for themselves. It is all about empowerment," Yeo says.

Yeo adds that managers should only provide the broad guidelines for the people to follow. Employees must know and feel that they do have something valuable to contribute to the organization, and take credit for it.

He says getting credit for a job well done does wonders for an employee's self-esteem, thus, making them smile on their way to work.

"I want the people to be happy and not drag themselves to work. A happy employee translates to a happy customer," he says.

He believes that every one in the organization is a sales person. Yeo says he is just a catalyst, and the department heads and the employees are the real doers.

**EDDIE B. H. Yeo**

Yeo, however, says that while he gives his employees enough space to do what they feel they need to, he still keeps an eye on them.

"I know my instructions and I remember them. I have a very good memory, that's why my people know that they can't run away from me. I am also a big believer in follow-ups. But if I follow up, that means there is something wrong, because they did not carry out my instructions immediately," he says.

Yeo honed his management skills over 30 years of working in hotels in Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, United States and Vietnam.

He holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of South Australia and is a Certified Hotel Administrator under the American Hotels and Motels Association, USA.

But more than his degrees, it is on people skills where Yeo will depend on to fulfill his mandate.

"I am the type who cannot sit still. But I do not make changes just for the sake of it. I know what I want, and I am focused on getting what I want," he says.

And what he wants now is for The Heritage Hotel to find new business opportunities and take its rightful place among the best of hotels operating in the Philippines.

# Strengthening public education

IN KEEPING with the folk wisdom that it takes a village to raise a child, Aboitiz Group Foundation, Inc. (AGFI) presses on this year with its commitment to public education.

As it has been doing since 1991, AGFI will continue "to pursue its mission of helping people help themselves by strengthening and improving programs that have the greatest impact on communities it serves," AGFI chair Jon Ramon Aboitiz declared.

The foundation addresses four areas in its social commitment: education and skills development, entrepreneurial development, primary health and child care, and environment conservation and protection.

However, its public education that remains, according to Aboitiz, "at the heart of the foundation's efforts to uplift the life of its beneficiaries."

As in previous years, more than half of AGFI's budget is appropriated for education.

In its vision to become the "neighbor of choice" in the communities where their companies are operating, AGFI managing trustee Augusto P.I. Carpio III pointed out that they assist the public education sector by stressing the following programs: infrastructure building, scholarship and financial assistance, equipment donation and teacher training.

In December 2004, the Department of Education (DepEd) 7 gave a special award to AGFI as one of the entities significantly contributing to the upliftment of academics in public schools.

Last year, various national and international testing bodies rated Filipino students among the lowest performers with a below-average proficiency in English, science and math.

Responding to this challenge, the Aboitiz Group of companies is drawing on its value of corporate social responsibility, including even the personal commitment of its employees. Aside from being accredited by the Philippine Council for NGO Certification, the self-regulating body of nongovernment organizations, AGFI is an active member of the League of Corporate Foundations and the Association of Foundations.

In partnership with other NGOs in Cebu, AGFI worked for the creation of the Coalition for Better Education, which involves various stakeholders in seeking solutions to improve education in Cebu.

## Learning havens

Carpio said that AGFI's longest-running program under education and skills development involves the building of infrastructure.

Believing these facilities to be necessities for learning, AGFI has turned over 92 classrooms and four libraries since 1991. Thirty-eight classrooms were build in Cebu; 42, in Davao; and the rest in Iligan, Bukidnon, Butuan, Pagadian and Leyte.

For 2004, AGFI also funded the construction of two day care centers in Cebu, bringing to a total of seven since 1997.

# Superbrands salutes Pinoy brands

SUPERBRANDS International recently awarded the Superbrands Award to 56 Filipino brands.

Brands awarded the globally acclaimed status of recognition included A-1 Driving, Boysen, Burlington, Casino Filipino, CCA Manila, Chinatrust, French Baker, Gardenia, Gillette, Globe Telecom, Goldilocks, Greenwich, Growers, Hanford, Hartmann, Lactacyd, LBC Bank, Lemon Square, Leonardo, Marlboro, Max's, McDonalds, Megaworld, Mentos, MSA, Nokia, Petron, Philips, Rusty Lopez, Selecta, Sterling Paper, Manila Times, Triumph and Yehey.

Nokia emerged the winner in the Overall Achievement Award for the International Brand category and Petron grabbed top spot as the Overall winner in the Local brands category.

In the Philippines when you make a "mobile" call you use your "Nokia" to make the call not a cell phone and when you tank up your car you put "Petron" into your car not petrol or gas. That's what true brand recognition is all about and that's why the council awarded these as the top Filipino brands for 2004.

Superbrands International awards the Superbrands status to deserving brands that have achieved formidable success in their brand building efforts. Established 14 years ago in London and spanning 43 countries, with 11 offices in Asia, Superbrands has featured more than 4000 brands since its inception.

Superbrands in The Philippines has been promoting and publishing the success of many Filipino home-grown and international brands in this country since its foray into this archipelago in 1996. Brands were selected from the Consumer Survey undertaken by global market research company, Synovate.

Synovate Asia conducts consumer research for the Superbrands Asia organization in eight markets covering both the broad population and the elite segment.

The Superbrands Philippines Council made up of luminaries in the media and branding industry also qualitatively assessed each brand according to set strict criteria that included market dominance, customer loyalty, longevity, goodwill and overall market acceptance.

Superbrands Philippines also announced a new market research initiative for all brands called the Brand Barometer. This detailed market report will give each brand an in depth competitive analysis of their brand reconciled with the demographics of the particular market. These research initiatives have transformed this global organization from a brand recognition entity to also play a role as a brand monitoring custodian.

COME AND JOIN!
FOREIGN CHAMBERS'
SME TRADE FAIR 2005

13 - 14 May 2005 (Friday to Saturday) / 10 AM to 7 PM
Philippine Trade Training Center (PTTC)
Roxas Blvd. corner Senator Gil Puyat Avenue, Pasay City

No other event brings you the chance to market your products and services to a mix of SMEs, multi-national companies, the diplomatic community and the various members of no less than 5 foreign chambers.

Organized By:
ANZCHAM
bcc PHILIPPINES
eccp

Media Partners:
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

REPLY FORM: (Fax to 845.1395 / 759.6690)

☐ I would like to participate and get more information about FOREIGN CHAMBERS' SME TRADE FAIR 2005

Name : ______ Position ______
Company : ______
Tel. No.: ______ Fax No.: ______
Email : ______

For details and inquiries call 845 1324; 759 6680 or email at sme@eccp.com

NOW! OUR 2nd IN THE SERIES!
Following the success of our first Executive MasterClass in Manila, January 2005

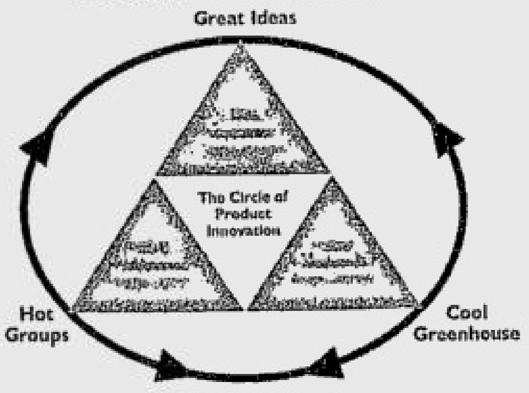
INNOVATE OR DIE!
The New Product Development That Works

MarkPlus&Co
MarkPlus Executive MasterClass
Tuesday, May 3, 2005
Paranaque AB, Makati Shangri-La

Today, innovation is the lifeblood of the business enterprise. If you do not innovate, you will die in the competition!
Innovation is no longer the responsibility of R&D department only. Nowadays, in order to make competitive new products, you have to shift from offering functions only into fashion and even experience! In this workshop, you will identify how to develop innovation as enterprisewide initiative and action by building an appropriate culture in your company: The Innovation Culture that leads you to new levels of profit and performance.

IDEAS AHEAD

The Circle of Product Innovation



Program Outline

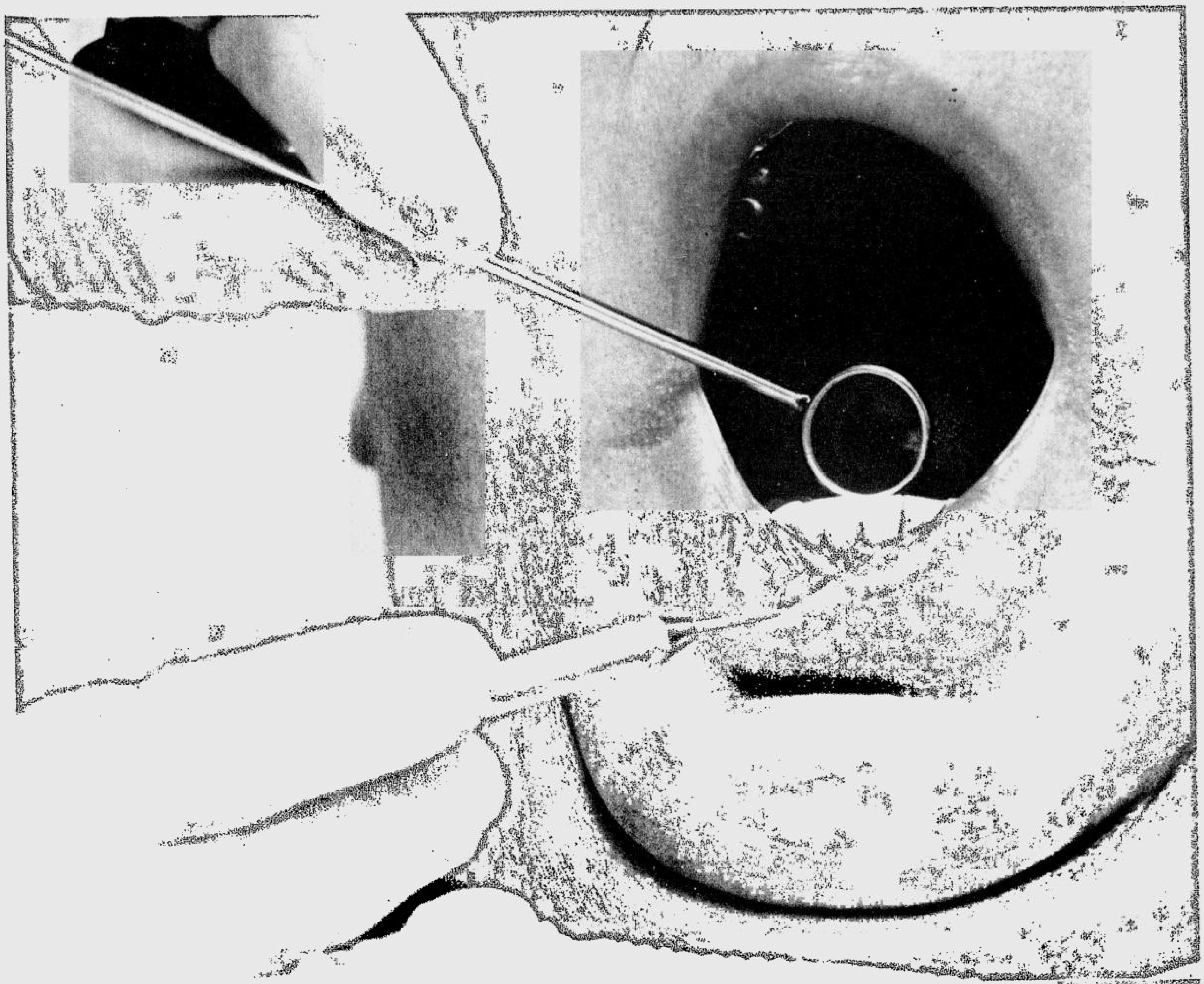
| | |
|---|---|
| 8.30 am - 9.00 am | Registration |
| 9.00 am - 11.00 am | The Marketing Trilogy:<br>Product-Brand-Customer Management |
| 11.00 am - 11.30 am | Coffee Break |
| 11.30 am - 1.00 pm | The Art of Innovation |
| 1.00 pm - 2.00 pm | Networking Lunch Break |
| 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm | Lesson From Philippine's Innovative Company:<br>Philippine Long Distance telephone (PLDT)<br>Guest Speaker:<br>Mr. Menandro Jimenez Jr., SVP Corporate Communications |
| 3.00 pm - 3.30 pm | Coffee Break |
| 3.30 pm - 5.00 pm | Think Creative Organization:<br>Great Ideas, Hot Groups and Cool Green House |

Featuring: HERMAWAN KARTAJAYA
Asian Marketing Guru (CIM-UK, Dec 2003)
President of World marketing Association (WMA)
Founder and President of MarkPlus&Co

Supported by:
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION

Special Local Case Study: PLDT

For further information, please contact:
Genevieve G. de Guia
Suite 1402, 14F, BDO Plaza,
8737 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.
Phone: (632)816-1643 / (632)817-0706
Fax: (632)325-0288
Mobile: +639175003127



# The Joy of Root Canals.

Idea:

Get the motors that power medical and dental instruments to market as fast as possible.

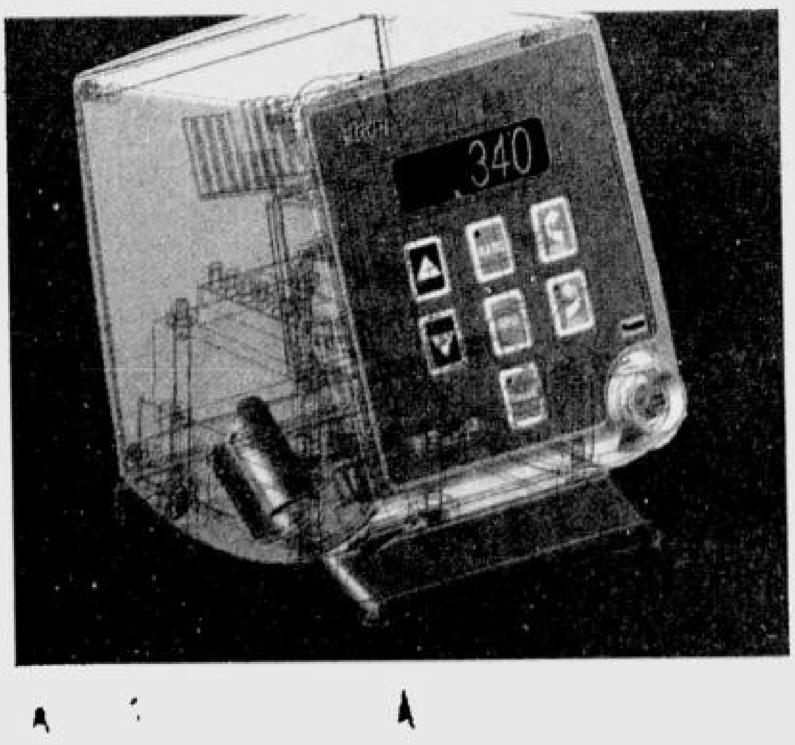
Realised:

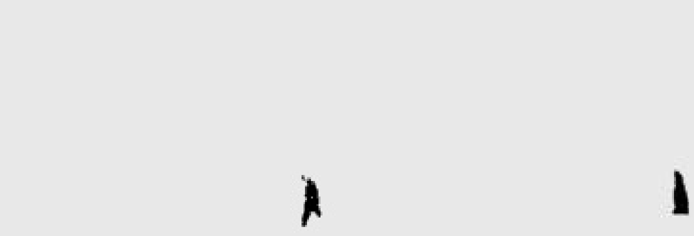
Using Autodesk Inventor® Series software, Pro-Dex / Micro Motors® is able to create some of the most innovative drive motors on the market. And using Autodesk® data management solution allows them to create an environment that facilitates design re-use, collaborative design, and version tracking. The end result? Pro-Dex / Micro Motors® has cut time to market by 25% and grown business 20% annually. From polishing teeth to polishing profits, Autodesk's manufacturing solutions can help you realise your ideas to compete and win. To find out more, visit http://south-apac.autodesk.com

Autodesk Asia Pte Ltd 391B Orchard Road, #12-01 Ngee Ann City Tower B, Singapore 238874 Tel: +65 6481 8100 Fax: +65 6735 5188

Autodesk

Autodesk and Autodesk Inventor are registered trademark of Autodesk, Inc., in the USA and/or other countries. All other brand names, product names, or trademarks belong to their respective holders.
©2005 Autodesk, Inc. All rights reserved.





corner office
W
P
X
JPEG
MPEG
GIF
P
W
X
MPEG
JPEG

# everywherEmail

## Three choices from GlobeSolutions.

Get your mail on the move, real-time – not just webmail, but also work e-mail, contact lists, corporate information and attachments. From now on, real heavyweights travel light. Get **everywherEmail** now. To know more, call or e-mail us. It could be the last old-style e-mail you'll ever send.

e-mail : globesolutions@globetel.com.ph.

GlobeSolutions 24-hour Hotline : 730-1999

### MobileOffice

More than mail. From photos to webcams to real-time document collaboration -- if it's on your desktop, you can get it in here.

O2 XDA II™

O2 XDA IIs™

O2 XDA II mini™

### BlackBerry™

Your life is in your inbox. Now, your inbox can fit your life. With push technology, you never have to retrieve your mail -- it comes to you.

BlackBerry 7730™

BlackBerry 7290™

BlackBerry 7100g™ (soon)

### MobileMail

The cost-effective, behind-the-firewall e-mail solution. Microsoft Exchange, Lotus Domino, IMAP4 and POP3 email.

Palm One Treo 650™

O2 XDA IIs™

O2 XDA II™

Globe solutions

*making great things possible for business*

The BlackBerry and RIM families of related marks, images and symbols are the exclusive properties of and trademarks of Research In Motion Limited – used by permission.

BUSINESS Monday
E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph
Business Features Editor
Margie Quimpo-Espino

A-Z COPY CENTER
PHOTOCOPY • RISOGRAPH • BLUEPRINT • PLASTIC LAMINATE
RING / STEEL / HARDBIND • CAD ENCODE / PLOT • DESKTOP PUBLISHING
KEY DUPLICATION • TYPING • CUT • PAD • COLLATE • STAPLE
RUBBER STAMP • OFFICE / SCHOOL SUPPLIES
Store Hours: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm Mondays - Saturdays
Come visit us at UNIT 1512
CITYLAND PASONG TAMO TOWER
2210 DON CHINO ROCES STREET
PIO DEL PILAR, MAKATI CITY
FREE PICK-UP & DELIVERY*
* minimum of P200 work order
CONTACT NOS.: 893-6826 · 757-2210 · 0919-7968675

# Anti-poverty program serves most isolated areas

**By Dennis M. Arroyo**
*Contributor*

TALAINGOD, Davao del Norte—This chieftain is a character. Datu Ibus Badeos acts like a natural ham in front of the camera. He flashes a toothy grin when he poses, leaning his head on the person next to him. He gamely puts on the ear phones on an Ipod player, listening to pop hits on MP3. But there's no mistaking the pride in the man—he's always dressed in tribal regalia during official visits.

"Once, when we took him to a mall, we got into some trouble when he refused to surrender his sword," says Reya Burgos of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

Today, the man's pride comes not only from his ancient legacy but also from 21st century achievement. He and other datus are at the forefront of radical change in Talaingod, Davao del Norte.

## Shifting from field to field

Talaingod is a 4th class municipality with a population of over 16,000 covering 15 indigenous communities. Three out of every four residents belong to the Ata-Manobo tribe.

They are nomads who shift from field to field after planting on them. Using this slash and burn approach, they plant corn and upland rice. In between harvests they hunt wild boar and rely on root crops for their daily meals. Outbreaks of measles and cholera are common.

Perched high in the uplands, Talaingod is hard to reach. Visitors must go through rough stony roads and trails, cross creeks and rivers, hike through forests, and even climb deforested mountains. In some areas, the elevation reaches 80 degrees.

## 70-percent illiteracy

Such difficult terrain leaves the place untouched by basic social services. It's no surprise that 70 percent of the people are illiterate. For keeping track of the days, they use a system of knots tied into vines. When a day passes, the knot is plucked off.

Moreover, isolated Talaingod is a hot spot for rebels. Guerrillas from the New People's Army (NPA) frequent its mountains.

The Kalahi-CIDSS program trained 104 Talaingod folk in finance, procurement, and infrastructure construction and management. Some had to invent their own signatures for the bank accounts. One man actually uses the dollar sign as his signature. Kalahi is funded by the World Bank.

Decent shelter is urgently needed, for the indigenous people of Talaingod do not live in durable houses. Their huts are made from bamboo, tree bark, banana leaves, and cogon grass, and they last only a month. Pigs, dogs, and other animals live inside the shelters as well. The residents do not have latrines. Their fragile houses seem to reinforce their nomadic way of life: plant a field and build a hut, then shift to another field and construct another hut.

In came Kalahi, and a community called Km 31 chose housing as their top priority. The plan was to construct 60 houses and a communal tribal hall.

## Hauling lumber together

People supported the housing project generously. Men, women, and children hauled the materials to be used in construction: galvanized iron sheets, lumber, boxes of nails. Spending a full day, they carried these loads on poles through 24 kilometers of rough terrain.

The 60 Kalahi houses were constructed, and the frames were made of solid wood, rather than bark. Replacing grass roofs were sheets of galvanized iron, what they formerly considered as status symbols. Each residence, bounded by a fence, had a kitchen sink and a latrine. The houses cost only P14,000 a piece to build.

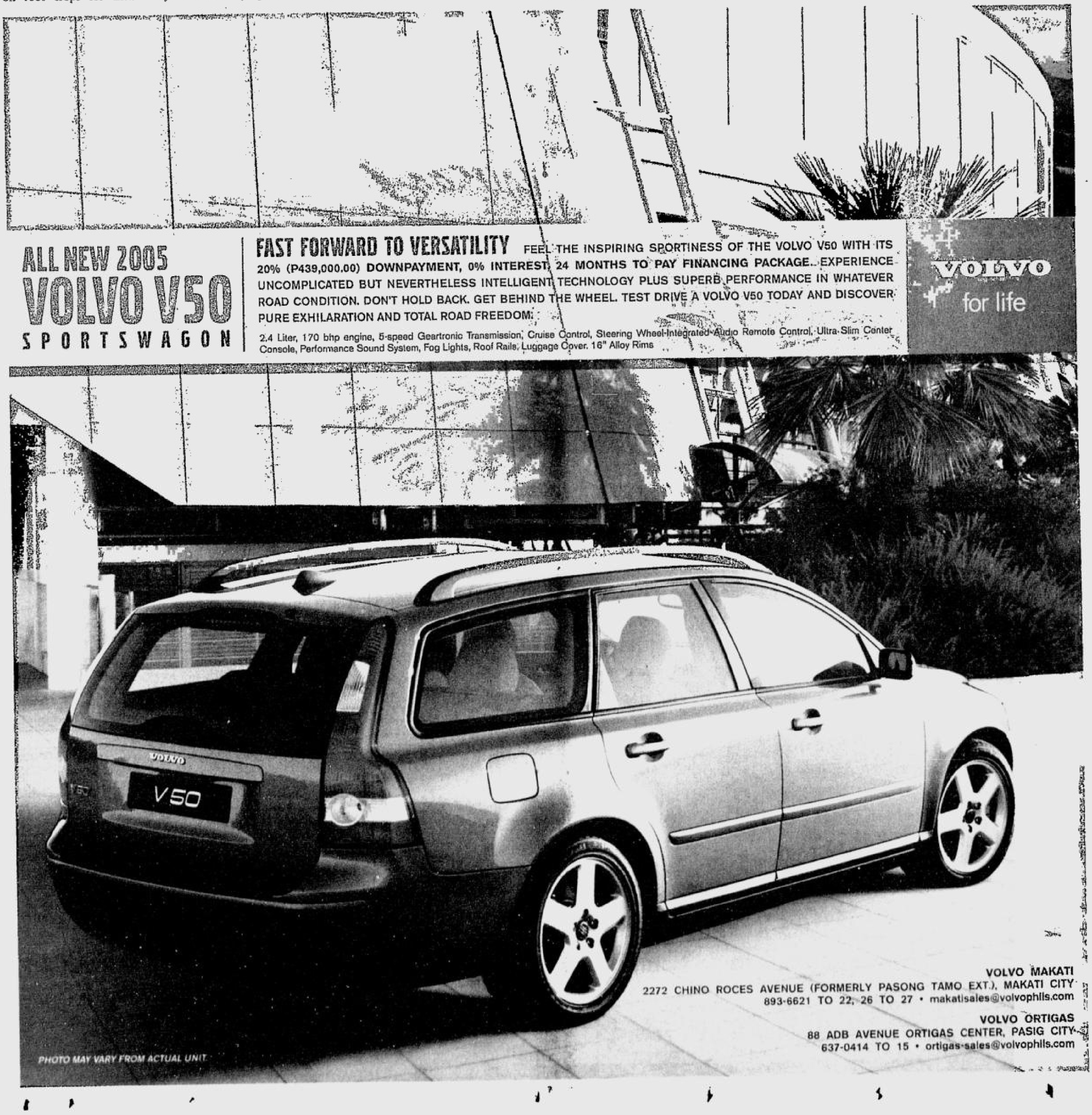
Facilitators instructed the indigenous folk on healthy practices and encouraged them to plant backyard gardens. They enjoyed access to a crude water system as well.

## Social services come in

As such, the people now lived in shelter more secure and sanitary. But there were deeper benefits as well. The tribal folk of Talaingod became more united in their community life. Knowing that they owned their houses, they are realizing that the shifting lifestyle had not led them to progress.

And because they were living in settled homes, the government could deliver to them basic social services. The health department has come in, supplying the families with treated mosquito nets as a defense against disease. The local civil registrar is listing residents and issuing birth certificates. The agriculture department is offering seedlings and extension services. Even education is making a few inroads through daycare.

Well-designed programs can go a long way to upgrade dramatically the lives of the poor.


ALL NEW 2005
VOLVO V50
SPORTSWAGON

FAST FORWARD TO VERSATILITY FEEL THE INSPIRING SPORTINESS OF THE VOLVO V50 WITH ITS 20% (P439,000.00) DOWNPAYMENT, 0% INTEREST, 24 MONTHS TO PAY FINANCING PACKAGE. EXPERIENCE UNCOMPLICATED BUT NEVERTHELESS INTELLIGENT TECHNOLOGY PLUS SUPERB PERFORMANCE IN WHATEVER ROAD CONDITION. DON'T HOLD BACK. GET BEHIND THE WHEEL. TEST DRIVE A VOLVO V50 TODAY AND DISCOVER PURE EXHILARATION AND TOTAL ROAD FREEDOM.

2.4 Liter, 170 bhp engine, 5-speed Geartronic Transmission, Cruise Control, Steering Wheel-Integrated Audio Remote Control, Ultra Slim Center Console, Performance Sound System, Fog Lights, Roof Rails, Luggage Cover. 16" Alloy Rims

VOLVO
for life

PHOTO MAY VARY FROM ACTUAL UNIT

VOLVO MAKATI
2272 CHINO ROCES AVENUE (FORMERLY PASONG TAMO EXT.), MAKATI CITY
893-6621 TO 22, 26 TO 27 • makatisales@volvophils.com

VOLVO ORTIGAS
88 ADB AVENUE ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY
637-0414 TO 15 • ortigas-sales@volvophils.com

# Accessories on center stage

THERE is a clamor among the discerning set for premium quality fashion jewelry.

Let fashion go to your head, Evita Peroni urges

**By Meluchi A. Rivera**
*Contributor*

VERY few foreign brands specializing in fashion accessories have found their way to the Philippines. Maybe because those ubiquitous glass-encased displays in the *tiangges* and department stores seem to have the local market saturated.

Saturated, perhaps; but certainly not sated. Given the response to Evita Peroni's first store in Eastwood, there is indeed a clamor among the discerning set for unique, premium-quality accessories such as eyewear, hair accessories, fashion jewelry and handbags.

Evita Peroni is truly an international brand as the mother company is based in Denmark, while most of the merchandise is designed in the US and manufactured in France.

This gives its product lines a different design sensibility from others available in the market. Advanced manufacturing technology and higher quality materials add to the sophistication of the finished items.

The luxury eyewear line, for instance, uses metal and acetate, molded one by one and given a unique sheen that makes the frames change color under different kinds of light. Styles range from retro with metal detailing at the temples, to those akin to sports goggles with the large, contoured lenses.

Only nickel-free metals are used to ensure that there is no reaction to the wearer's skin and sweat. All lenses block out 100 percent of UV rays.

Hair accessories, meanwhile, incorporate materials such as suede, mother of pearl, silk flowers, organza, seed and pearl beads. The more unique styles feature fringed leather and feathers—yes, feathers!

Others are updated designs of items straight out of your lola's cabinet: the "smood," a clip with a small, pouched net to tuck hair into; and the chignon stick, like those chopsticks that somehow managed to hold up lola's thick, lustrous hair when it was gathered into a bun.

Then there's the double comb, essentially two *paynetas* joined together by elastic straps, which can be used to sweep hair back and gather it at the crown, or to anchor a bun or ponytail.

### Off the shelves

Handbags are all made of genuine leather and are likewise intricately styled.

"We stock just a few pieces per item so there's less chance that clients will bump into someone in Manila using the same bag," reveals Chito Santos, the youthful entrepreneur responsible for bringing the brand to the Philippines.

Needless to say, Evita Peroni items have been flying off the shelves since they opened in December. This, despite having had no formal launch or marketing effort for the brand.

It helps that a flat-screen TV inside the store flashes images of European models sporting the latest collections, and a video on how to wear and use the hair and fashion accessories. There's also a glossy instructional booklet that accompanies each purchase.

"On opening day we had only one sale, and we got really nervous," Santos reveals. But the next day, sales picked up. "We had people just walk in, and when they tried on our items they were won over."

Women are obviously Evita Peroni's main market, although a few men have purchased the unisex eyewear, too. Initially, Santos says, the women are drawn to the extensive range of hair accessories, sorted by color and hung along one main wall. Then they discover the earrings and necklaces, try on the shades and bags, and they're hooked.

Designs of the jewelry line range from the modern and minimalist to the colorful and ornate. Silver has been popular for some time now, but gold and burnished bronze are also in vogue for summer. Austrian crystals and pearl beads in shades of red, ochre, turquoise, yellow, green and magenta echo the colors of the season.

"We already have some loyal buyers, and we call them each time we have new items," Santos says. Which, by the way, happens almost every week.

The store's playful tagline, "Let fashion go to your head," reveals the brand's initial roots as a hair accessories store. It's also apt, as a shopper can literally lose her head ogling the 700-plus unique items on display.

There's good news for the local buyer though: the brand, which has stores in Europe, the US, South Africa, the Middle East and all major markets in Asia, is priced lowest here.

"It's cheaper to buy here than, say, in Bangkok or Malaysia," Santos reveals.

# Online travel agencies compete with supplier sites

CHICAGO—Internet travel agencies like Expedia and Orbitz still rule the online travel business, but sites run by airlines, hotels and car rental services are luring travelers seeking better prices by avoiding the middle man.

Analysts say the competition from supplier sites is unlikely to topple any of the big three online travel agencies—Expedia, Travelocity and Orbitz. But it may erode their profits even as the agencies remain dominant.

"The struggle between the intermediaries and the suppliers is reaching a head," said Lorraine Sileo, analyst at PhoCusWright, a travel research company. "I think that we're at the point where technology is the differentiator." PhoCusWright data show that consumer perceptions of supplier-direct sites have improved in recent years. In 2004, 45 percent of online travelers said Internet agencies have the lowest prices. That's down from 59 percent in 2002. Meanwhile, 38 percent of online travelers said suppliers offer the lowest prices, up from just 14 percent two years ago.

To some degree, that's true, because agencies charge a booking fee for some services. For example, Expedia charges a $5 booking fee for plane tickets. A traveler could buy the same ticket on the airline's website without paying that fee.

"In terms of the airlines, it's very much skewed to the airlines' websites," Sileo said. "Airlines have been more successful than hotels at inspiring loyalty." PhoCusWright estimated in 2004 that 61 percent of online airline tickets sales were on carriers' websites. Several airlines have boosted traffic to their websites by offering low-fare guarantees.

"We still rely on travel agencies and new emerging Internet sites for our business, but there is a cost to us," said Roger Frizzell, spokesman for AMR Corp.'s American Airlines.

"Our most effective distribution channel is actually ourselves because the cost is such that we don't have to pay additional fees." The increased direct sales are a glimmer of good news for an industry which has posted billions of dollars in losses because of high fuel costs. Distribution through their sites saves carriers from having to pay an agency to sell tickets.

The hotel industry, which is in much better financial shape, has also been pushing its own websites.

But while it may be a little cheaper to buy tickets directly from the travel supplier, customers may prefer the convenience of a travel agency if they also need to book a hotel room and a rental car for the same trip. Furthermore, the agencies often can bundle flights, hotel rooms and car rentals into one package and offer a discount.

The top three online travel agencies, Expedia, a subsidiary of IAC/InterActiveCorp, Travelocity, a unit of Sabre Holdings Corp., and Orbitz, owned by Cendant Corp., comprise about 77 of the market share.

Industry watchers generally agree that successful sites offer technology and deals superior to supplier sites.

"There are certain types of consumers that like to go supplier direct because they are brand loyal," said David Dennis, a spokesman for Expedia. "But the types of consumers that would shop on online agency such as Expedia are consumers that are just shopping."

Dennis said it is not surprising that supplier sites are gaining traction, but he said customers are willing to pay fees for packages and other conveniences. *Reuters*

# How to profit . . .

From page B3-8

planted by sowing the seeds in seedbeds. But the seedbed must be sterilized first by using the recommended chemicals or by burning 3-4 centimeters thick rice hull on top of the intended seedbed. About 800 grams of seed are sufficient for one hectare.

- Harden the seedlings two weeks before transplanting. This can be done by watering only the seedlings when they already show signs of temporary wilting. The seedlings can be transplanted 30-40 days after emergence.
- Transplant seedlings at a depth of 4-6 centimeters depending on the height of the seedlings at one meter apart.
- Apply appropriate fertilizers such as chicken manure.
- Control insect pests and diseases using suggested pesticides, rate of application, and when and how to apply. (Known insect pests that attack eggplants are thrips, leafhoppers, aphids, mites, and twig borer or fruit borer. The diseases include phomopsis, phythoptora rot and bacterial wilt. Shoot and fruit borers are considered serious pest of eggplant).

FARMERS stand to earn substantially from eggplants.

CONGRATULATIONS
GKP Scholars Batch 2005

GO KIM PAH
[1899 - 1983]

Building A Progressive Nation
Through Quality Education

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

**Ateneo De Manila University**
Joie Aura C. Macatula
Bachelor of Arts in Economics - Cum Laude

**San Beda College**
Fernando R. Tullao
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy

**University of Sto. Tomas**
Mary Ann Louise K. Patagui
AB Communication Arts

**University of San Carlos**
Mandy D. Fornis
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy

**Holy Cross of Davao College, Inc.**
Jennifer G. Pleños
Bachelor of Science in Accountancy

Equitable Bank Foundation Inc.
4/F Equitable PCI Bank Tower I, Makati Avenue corner H.V. dela Costa Street, Makati City • Tel. No 840-7000 local 2520 • Telefax 878-4391
A foundation of
Equitable PCI BANK

# Sales of Spanish brandy in the Philippines on the uptrend

FILIPINOS love a good drink. At any special occasion, a bottle of liquor will surely be served.

Based on a growing demand, sales of imported liquor are on the uptrend. Reports stress that brandy from Spain commands about 90 percent of brandy and cognac imports. And the most popular is Fundador, which is exclusively marketed and distributed in the country by Allied Domecq Philippines Inc. (ADPI)—a business unit of Allied Domecq Worldwide, one of the world's largest spirits and wine companies.

"Fundador really stands for a lot," said Angel Lebrero and Jose Ruiz Gomez, director general and market services director of Allied Domecq España, respectively. "It stands for quality, heritage, taste." The two Spanish executives visited Manila recently. An operating unit of Allied Domecq Worldwide, Allied Domecq España is in charge of production and bottling of spirits, particularly brandies.

Directly translated as "founder" in Spanish, Fundador was the first brand to be marketed as "Brandy de Jerez" in 1874. Its origin is found in the Jerez Region, known for producing brandies of distinction. And for over a century now, it has been the drink of choice of many Filipinos.

"The Philippines is by far the first and the largest export market for our brand leader, Fundador Solera," explained Lebrero. "Filipinos are very loyal to our brand."

## Tailor-made for Filipinos

Its strong market in the Philippines prompted the House of Domecq to introduce a brandy specially made for Filipinos—Fundador Gold Reserve. It was launched in the Philippines in 2000.

"Fundador Gold Reserve is aged longer, and is blended with wonderfully complex old wines and brandies from the personal reserves of the highly respected Domecq family in Spain. This careful blending and further aging result in a rich, warm and aromatic brandy that is extra smooth," shared Gomez.

ALLIED Domecq España's director general Angel Lebrero and market services director Jose Ruiz Gomez having sensory experience of Fundador Gold Reserve.

Lebrero added that the combination of various elements is responsible for the unique taste of Fundador Gold Reserve—from the selection of the grapes, the skill in producing the wine to be transformed into spirits through a careful distillation process, to the selection of the sherry casks where the blend of Fundador Gold Reserve will be aged in the solera system for a longer time.

"Among all these factors, the most important in my opinion, is the balance of the blend and the character given to the brandy by American oak, previously seasoned with some of our most outstanding Oloroso sherries," Lebrero said.

With Fundador's long history, it is not surprising that its newest product, Fundador Gold Reserve, is now one of the most popular spirits in the country.

"The Philippine market has responded very positively to Fundador Gold Reserve since it was introduced," Lebrero disclosed. "Its base of regular consumers and converts is continuously growing, as more and more Filipinos get to experience this fine quality brandy. It is also the fastest growing brand in Duty Free Philippines and is very popular among travelers and *balikbayans*."

## Phil-Jerez connection

The success being enjoyed by Fundador here can in part be attributed to the close relationship forged by its offices in Spain and the Philippines.

"There's good communication between the Philippines and Jerez. The Philippine team is one of the most active in the area of marketing. We learn a lot whenever we come here," Gomez shared.

The alliance helped in reinforcing Fundador's top-of-mind status in the Philippine market.

"Allied Domecq España is very supportive. Although our marketing initiatives are driven by the local market, our efforts are conjoined with Allied Domecq's global guidelines," said Patricia Yatco, Fundador Gold Reserve's brand manager. "We have great collaboration. For example, we worked together to develop this very special brand. While the Jerez team created the best product; we conceptualized the packaging and promotional strategies."

"There are a lot of opportunities for the brand to grow. Our main thrust is to support Fundador Gold Reserve as much as we have supported Fundador Solera," Yatco explained.

Canon
Delighting You Always

freebies, free beach
HOLIDAY RAFFLE PROMO!

Canon PRIMA Zoom 80u
Canon Webcam
LBP 1120 Affordable Laser Printer
LBP 1210 Full-Featured Laser Printer
LBP 3200
LBP 2410
LBP 2000

*Get a FREE Canon Prima Zoom 80u Camera or a Canon Webcam for every purchase of a Canon Laser Beam Printer. Plus, get a chance to join the raffle for a chance to win a free vacation for two to Boracay!*

Canon Laser Beam Printers
- Cost Efficient
- Fast
- Professional Quality Prints
- Canon Advanced Printing Technology
- Zero Warm-Up Time for CAPT Printers

LASER SHOT
CAPT

*Insist on an original warranty issued by Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.*
See posters for details. Promo Duration: April 13 to May 31, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0988, Series of 2005.

South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:
Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 • www.canon-asia.com
Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City
Tels.: 812-6047 • Fax: 894-4174 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

MDR Microwave Sales
N. Escario St. cor. Clavano St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos.: (032) 255-4415 / 412-4864 to 67

GLEE Electronics
33 A. Rita St., San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos.: 744-1371 / 744-1376

Uplink Systems, Inc.
Ortigas
Tel. Nos.: (632) 687-7221 / 687-7223

HartfordInstitute

*Enhance your career with our*
*Master & Bachelor's Degree Programs!*

**FREE SEMINAR** on our programs!
Venue: Dusit Hotel Nikko, Yakal Function Room, Ayala Center, Makati City
Date: April 30, 2005, Saturday, 1 pm to 5 pm

*Awarded by CAL STATE University, Hayward USA:*
Executive MBA
CAL STATE HAYWARD
AACSB Accredited

*Awarded by Central Queensland University:*
Master of Business Administration
Bachelor of Business (Marketing)
Central Queensland University Australia

*Awarded by University of Newcastle, Australia*
(Online Masters)
Master of Marketing
Master of Multimedia
Master of Environmental and Business Management
Master of Applied Management (Architecture, Nursing, Health)
Master of Aviation Management
Master if Information Technology
Master of Business Administration
Doctor of Business Administration

Pre-registration required. Call us to reserve your slot.

International admissions office:
RafflesEducationNetwork, Pte. Ltd.
24th Floor, Pacific Star Building, Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel: 67006653, 67008400 Telefax: 67008435
Cellphone: 09279248280, 09163228258
enquiries-philippines@raffles-education-network.com

EXTENDED TO APRIL 30, 2005**

39,900 DP SWEET SUMMER DEAL ON A SENTRA GS A/T!

SENTRA
X-TRAIL

JAPAN'S No.1 SUV IS NOW THE PHILIPPINES' SUV OF THE YEAR!*

Drive home the TRULY all-conquering X-TRAIL and the Stronger, Smarter, Sexier Sentra at our best rates yet!

PROMO PERIOD FROM MARCH 9 TO APRIL 30, 2005 • Subject to Bank Approval • See flyers for details
**Approved by DTI-NCR *Based on Japan Automobile Manufacturer's Association 2004

2004 CAR OF THE YEAR
SUV Lite Category
1st PHILIPPINE CAR OF THE YEAR AWARDS
Car Awards Group, Inc.
C!
BEST COMPACT SUV OF THE YEAR
February 2005 Issue
NO.1 IN SALES
June to December 2004
CAMPI

AS LOW AS 111,000 DOWNPAYMENT X-TRAIL 4x2
For Nissan X-TRAIL Limited Edition.

AS LOW AS 39,900 DP Sentra 1.6 GS A/T
AS LOW AS 45,400 DP Sentra 180 GT
72 months at 50% DP 5,200/mo Sentra 1.3 GX M/T

ZERO interest for the first 24 months for the Sentra 180 GT & 1.6 GS A/T

72 months at 50% DP
10,600 per month
X-TRAIL 4x2
Per DTI-NCR Permit # 1315, Series of 2005

NISSAN

Assembled and distributed by
NISSAN MOTOR PHILIPPINES, INC.
visit www.nissan.com.ph

METRO MANILA
NISSAN GALLERY QUEZON AVENUE
Tel Nos 731-6308, 742-4145
MANTRADE DEV'T CORP.
Tel Nos 843-3316 to 23
NISSAN WESTGATE ALABANG
Tel. Nos. 772-1826 to 30, 775-0236/39
NISSAN COMMONWEALTH
Tel. Nos. 932-0428, 932-4001
NISSAN MANILA
Tel. Nos 281-8060 to 63
NISSAN GALLERY ORTIGAS
Tel. Nos 635-5688, 438-4539
NISSAN NORTH EDSA (Balintawak)
Tel. Nos 330-5331 to 50, 455-8980
NISSAN U.N. AVE., MANILA
Tel. Nos. 400-1020, 400-2177

LUZON
NISSAN NAGA
Tel. Nos. (054) 472-3577 to 78
NISSAN PAMPANGA
Tel. Nos. (045) 961-5481, (045) 961-5462
NISSAN SOUTHWOODS
Tel. Nos. (02) 843-1804, (02) 699 2400 to 02
ROYCE MOTOR CENTER
Tel Nos (044) 463 7210 to 12,
SANTIAGO CITY
Tel. No. (078) 682-8701, (078) 682-8707
PAMPANGA
Tel. Nos. (045) 961-7773 to 74

VISAYAS
NISSAN BACOLOD
Tel Nos (034) 434-8051, 435-1102
NISSAN CEBU DISTRIBUTORS, INC.
Tel. Nos. (032) 346-0350, 346-8422 to 25
NISSAN ILOILO (S &J Motors)
Tel. Nos. (033) 320-4051 to 53

MINDANAO
NISSAN CAGAYAN DE ORO
Tel. Nos. (088)858-3002, (08822)726688
BUTUAN
Tel. Nos. (085) 815-3164, 342-7210
NISSAN DAVAO
Tel. Nos. (082) 221-1914 to 18, (082) 227-6712
GENERAL SANTOS
Tel. No. (083) 553-6228

# Pagcor: We'll regulate, not engage in, cellular phone-based gambling

**Erwin Lemuel G. Oliva**
*Contributor*

IN THE HEAT of hearings on the merits and security of mobile phone gambling, the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) denied that it will be operating a mobile gambling service via cellular phones.

While Pagcor has asked the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) to grant them a specific code or special access number for a supposed text-based betting and gambling service, officials insisted that this was meant only to allow the government-owned and controlled corporation to "regulate and control" existing text-based games of chance, deemed as gambling, in order to prevent minors from engaging in such activities.

"We have no intention of promoting or introducing new text games," Pagcor said in a statement during Wednesday's public hearing at the NTC.

"It is the stand of Pagcor that text games are games of chance. As the sole authority to regulate all games of chance in the country, these games therefore fall under Pagcor's jurisdiction," the agency added.

In an interview with Infotech after the NTC public hearing, Eduardo King, managing head of Pagcor's PR and advertising department, tried to clarify the public misconception that Pagcor itself will be operating mobile phone-based gambling services.

"There are so many text-based games of chance right now. Some are treading on gambling. So there has to be a system to determine whether a certain game of chance is gambling or not. Initially, all these [games of chance] have to apply with the Department of Trade and Industry. If it is deemed a sales promo, the DTI gives the seal of approval. However, if it is deemed gambling, then Pagcor will step in," King said.

King stressed that Pagcor is "here to regulate text-based games that are and will be offered by content providers."

For a game of chance to be considered gambling, he said, three elements must be present: a fee to play the game or to wager, a chance to win, and a cash prize.

The Pagcor official stressed that the application for special access codes is part of an inter-agency agreement to regulate and monitor existing text games offered by telecommunication companies and content providers.

During a Powerpoint presentation, however, Pagcor indicated that it was requesting the NTC for the special access numbers with the objective of ensuring that "government receives its just and rightful share of the profit from text games."

Pagcor also pointed out that it intends especially to protect the public, minors in particular, from numerous text-based scams and fraudulent games of chance.

"It is our mandate to centralize and integrate the rights authority to operate and conduct games of chance," while exploring new revenue opportunities, Pagcor added in its presentation.

The agency added that it already has set up an Internet and mobile intermediation platform through which mobile phone games will be monitored and regulated.

It also disclosed that it will require participants of mobile phone gambling services to register with the agency and provide personal information via text messaging. Upon confirmation, the agency will require each person to present at least three valid identifications to ascertain identity and ensure player security.

On top of that, Pagcor will offer pre-paid cards to be sold only to adults at different peso denominations, starting from P500 up to P5,000.

"Such high value will discourage people with limited disposable income from gambling," the agency added.

The Pagcor system illustrated at the NTC hearing is purportedly meant to handle registration as well as the filtering of minors and unwanted players from the mobile phone gambling service.

This system, Pagcor said, will eliminate scam and fraud because the public is now aware of a legitimate mobile phone-based gambling service.

Curiously, it is also requesting the NTC for a list of all the value-added service providers in the country.

Globe senior vice president for corporate and regulatory affairs Rodolfo Salalima rejected Pagcor's reasons for asking the NTC for the special access numbers at the hearing.

"[Pagcor is] saying that no new text games will be introduced. But in the end, they say they will look for ways to earn more revenues? Are you using these codes to monitor text games or are you using it to introduce new text games?" Salalima wanted to know.

The Globe lawyer argued that operators are in a better position than Pagcor to regulate text-based games of chance.

"If you find any text games that are deemed gambling, tell us, and we will take it down," he added. "Have you found any operators engaged in gambling? We're not engaged in it. I will personally tell management to stop it if you find one," Salalima said.

The Globe executive stressed that Pagcor's objectives are ambiguous.

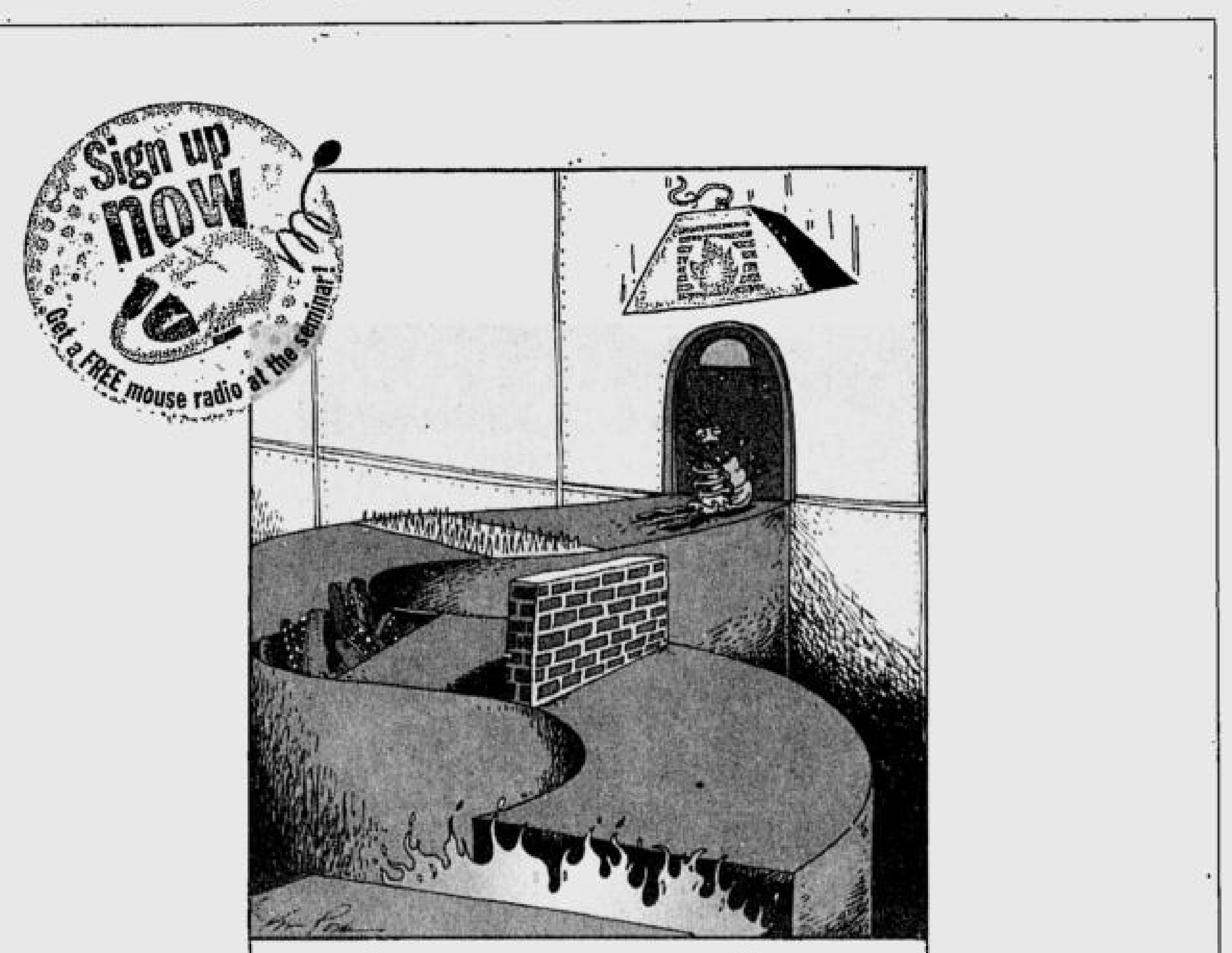
"If you're not going to engage in text gambling, then why screen minors? Minors could easily get a proxy to play for them. If you're simply going to monitor and regulate this activity, then let's not play with words," Salalima said.

"Globe is distressed about Pagcor's statements. It's our policy not to engage in gambling. *Nasunog na kami d'yan* (We already got in trouble because of this). But if you're going to lease our lines to offer this service, you have to enter a commercial relationship or agreement with us. Gambling is not a public service," the Globe executive pursued.

Salalima said that Globe and other local mobile phone operators have been through many congressional investigations after Pagcor complained that they were operating an alleged games of chance, which should be regulated by the government owned and controlled corporation.

The Wednesday's hearing was also attended by representatives from the Department of Trade and Industry, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Education, National Consumers Association Inc., HatchAsia, and some other service and content providers.

The NTC has asked all stakeholders in the issue to submit their position papers and presentations to the agency within 15 days. After this period, the agency will determine if it needs to hold another public hearing before it makes a decision on Pagcor's request for the special access numbers.



Sign up now
Get a FREE mouse radio at the seminar!

"I made it!!"

Threats to your network have evolved dramatically.
Has your network security architecture kept pace?

**Juniper Networks seminar series:
The secrets of secure & assured networks and applications**

**Metro Manila • April 26 • 9am • The Peninsula Manila**

**Seminar highlights**
- Juniper your Internet: the next generation of integrated security gateways
- Juniper your wireless: latest wireless applications in distributed offices
- Juniper your remote access: new security features in SSL VPN
- Juniper your WAN: implementing MPLS, IPv6 and QoS for the enterprise

**Who will benefit most from this seminar?**
- CxOs
- IT security personnel
- MIS and IT management
- Network managers and technical specialists

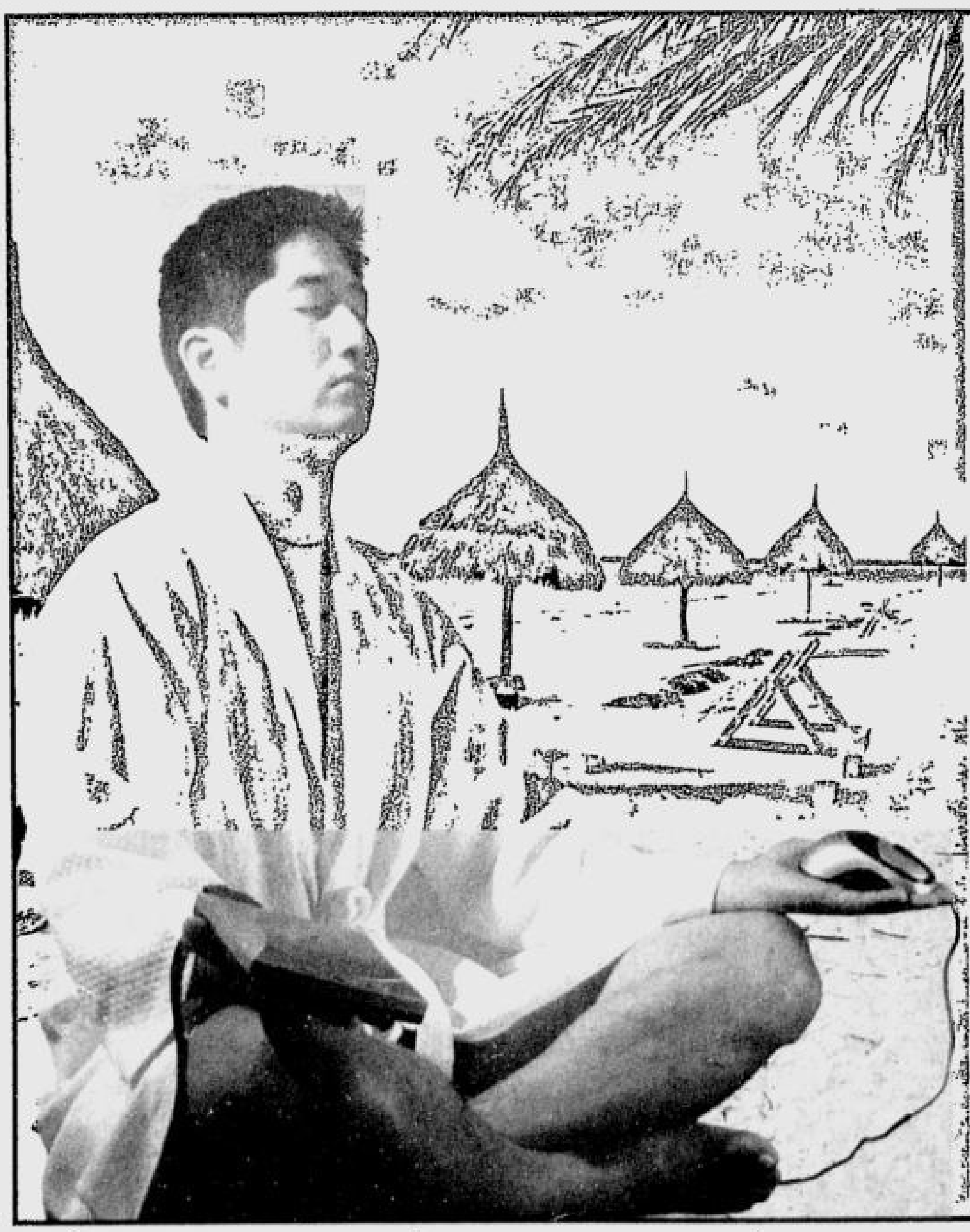
**Sign up today for your FREE half-day seminar by registering online at www.apac-juniper.net/ent_seminar05ml/en/index.asp**

Juniper your Net.

www.juniper.net

Juniper NETWORKS

© 2005 Juniper Networks



Remove toxins in your PC by deleting unlicensed software.

DETOX YOUR PC

to keep your business healthy.

Experience the full power of software through SAM! Attend a *FREE BSA seminar* on **"Rx: Software Asset Management (SAM) for a Healthy & Secure Business"** on April 20, 2005, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Ballroom I of Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center, Makati City. Speaker will be Jimmy Wu, Partner, Enterprise Risk Services, Deloitte & Touche. For details, call 891-3396 or 891-3485 or send an e-mail to cecil.castigador@perceptions-inc.com.

Endorsed by

Commission on Information and Communications Technology

BSA
BUSINESS SOFTWARE ALLIANCE

**Report companies using pirated software. Call the BSA anti-piracy hotline at 819-5897 (Metro Manila) or 1-800-1-888-8787 (outside Metro Manila).
Reward: Up to P1,000,000***

*Terms & conditions apply

Every day, we touch more than two million customers around the globe.

Today, the Filipino community touched us and we thank you.

TeleTech, a proud recipient of

## THE OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PROJECT

From the Philippine Economic Zone Authority

President Gloria Maca
Phil ine Econo Zo
12

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo presents the award to Craig Reines, TeleTech Vice President and General Manager. Looking on are Trade and Industry Secretary Juan B. Santos and PEZA Director General Lilia B. de Lima.

TeleTech

www.teletech.com

Building F, SM Corporate Offices
1000 Bay Boulevard, SM Central Business Park
Bay City, Pasay City, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos. : (02) 552-9770 or (02) 552-9777

2nd Level, Robinsons Place-Novaliches
Quirino Highway, Quezon City, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos. : (02) 939-6885 or (02) 938-7184

# Once-in-a-lifetime summer for beach lovers

JOIN the South Beach Summer Caravan '05, a 6-day tour of Puerto Galera, Calapan and Boracay.

Experience summer like never before for six fun-filled days of island hopping, swimming, sunbathing and partying on sandy beaches and cool clear waters from May 17 to 22. The South Beach Caravan '05 is a two-in-one beach vacation package that takes participants from Manila to Puerto Galera, to Calapan in Mindoro, all the way to Boracay.

This exciting caravan across land and sea offers the choice of participants' preferred mode of travel, be it in the privacy of their own cars or in the relaxing comfort of designated tourist buses. Either way, the South Beach Caravan '05 is one summer vacation event that beach lovers everywhere just can't afford to miss.

Organized by Red Hot Events & Management, in cooperation with Orange Tours & Travel, the caravan is expected to boost local tourism and promote the government's Roll-On-Roll-Off (RoRo) Inter-Island Ferry Project. The caravan takes the usual route of the RoRo inter-island ferries to the south, starting from Batangas across to Puerto Galera, then on to Calapan Mindoro, and finally to Roxas before another RoRo ferry to Boracay.

The South Beach Caravan '05 kicks off its first vacation leg with the 1st Mayor's Cup Kayak Race, a beer-drinking contest, a tattoo body art competition and Caribbean party in Puerto Galera and Boracay, on top of six days of sight-seeing, partying, and swimming at the beach.

The special rates offered to students and early registrants already include food and accommodation for all six days. Hurry. Book yourselves now for the year's most exciting summer event. For more details, call Orange Tours & Travel at 924-1957, 434-3879, 436-8801, and 0926-6210439, or e-mail orangetrvl@hotmail.com. Log on to www.orange-tours-caravan2005.com, or call Eidref Tours & Travel at 281-7561, 281-7569, 281-7570, or e-mail eidreftours@yahoo.com. You can also call Sunlight Travel at 711-6776 or Stork Travel at 809-5885.

**RP'S LONGEST CANCER SURVIVOR SIGNS FOR RE-VITA**

Re-Vita International Philippines recently signed up the Philippines' longest survivor of cancer, professional speaker and classical singer Joscephine Gomez, as chief endorser of Re-Vita Liqua Health and as business development and training consultant. Included in her list of activities for the company is a series of lectures on health, communication and personality development and training of sales professionals. Signing the contract with her is Edwin C. Salonga, president of Re-Vita. With them are Carlos Perion, vice president of The Corporate Mind (left) and Ronaldo S. Salonga board chair, Re-Vita (right). For details, call 725-4514, 725-5374 and 687-7898.

# Going all-white at Ebun

WITH its cheerful all-white motifs (from the doors, tables and chairs and egg-motifs that adorn the walls) right down to the placemats and crockery, not to mention those cute little plastic eggs displayed in the glass cabinets above the entrance and along the sides, and the only one of its kind in the area to be done in this tone, the perfect complement to Ebun—the Kapampangan word for egg—is created.

The minimalist white atmosphere, reminiscent of the late '60s to early '70s, instantly gives you the impression that you are not in a Filipino restaurant, as it does away with the fiesta atmosphere that generates too much clutter in the end. What you have, instead, is Filipino favorites served in an unobtrusive setting that evolves into an enjoyable feast for the senses as it tends to soothe tired souls after a hard day at the office, thus evoking images of those leisurely days when eating was an unhurried affair-in contrast to many trendy spots where quick service is the order of the day.

The friendly, cheerful manner in which you are served really brings you back to the days when eating out was meant for enjoyment. Add to that the fact that the waiting time for your order assures that your food is piping hot and carefully presented, the way the Kapampangans do it.

Ebun's pieces de resistance, however, remain its impressive selection of dishes done the Kapampangan way, thus giving diners a new twist to everyday, *lutong bahay* favorites through a unique, upgraded presentation that harmonizes with the overall concept of the place. And yes, eggs are added to most of the selections. For its reasonable price-as well as the presentation-anyone can gorge over its Tidtad at Puto (*dinuguan*) that comes to you with the sauce in generous proportions and the Kare-kare (which uses freshly ground peanuts) that features the tender *laman*, *sigang na ulo ng* salmon *sa miso* and *sigang babi* (a novel way of transforming a globally renowned fish with a true Pinoy touch, fresh and with that well-loved tangy feel), or staples like crispy *pata*, *adobong manok* and *sinigang na bangus*.

And in this day and age where everything and everybody moves in a hyper-frantic pace, there still is a place where you can enjoy those hearty favorites a la Kapampangan over at Ebun along Greenbelt 3, Makati City.

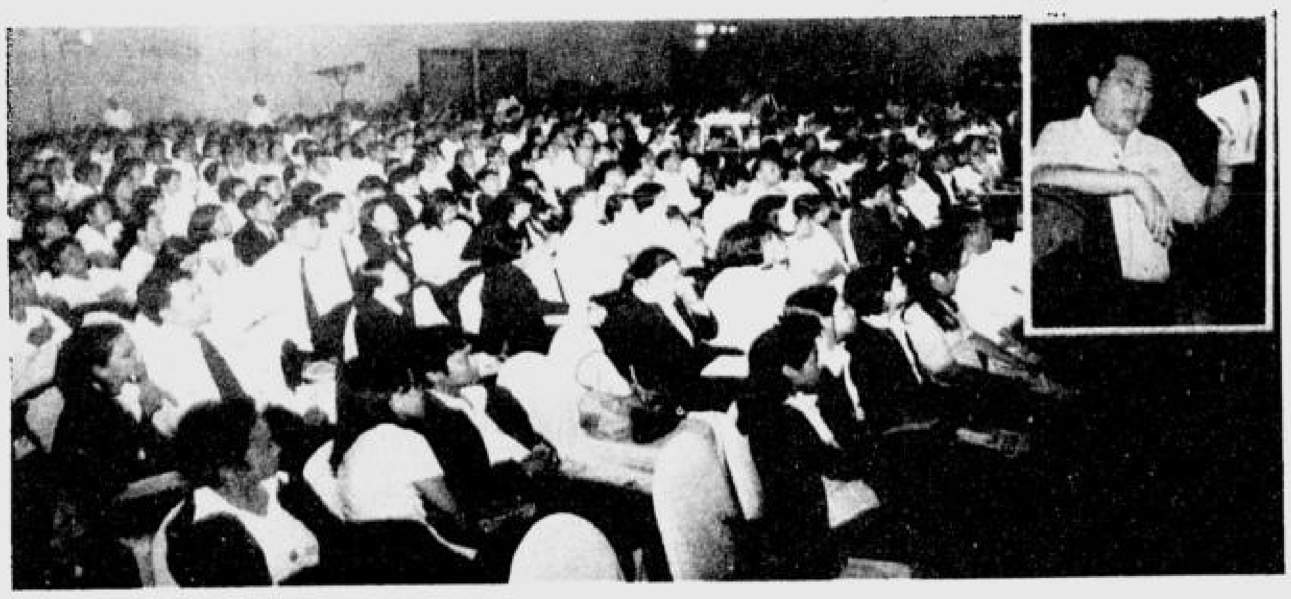
**DAYRIT INDUCTS NEW TRUSTEES**

Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit (right) inducts the board of trustees of the Philippine Chamber of the Pharmaceutical Industry. Shown, from left, are Michael A. dela Cruz, president; Marilou B. Buensuceso, vice-president for manufacturing; William P. Fabroa, vice-president for generics distribution; Edward I. Isaac, vice-president for ethical marketing; Rudy B. Calma, PRO and chair of the communication and public relations committee; lawyer Leah Sebastian, secretary of United Laboratories Inc; Sheila Mae M. Velilla, Biolink Pharma; Zenaida D. Balajadia , Lloyd Laboratories Inc; and James T. Dio, general manager of Therapharma Inc.

# Characters Unlimited bags another award

CHARACTERS Unlimited was once again recognized as the leading specialty store for 2004. On Feb. 18, the National Consumer Affairs Foundation recognized Characters Unlimited as the top specialty store for children's bags and novelty items at the 21st Year-Ender Excellence Awards. Robby Rabbit and Irene Ching, VP for operations of Characters Unlimited, received the award.

Characters Unlimited is an official distributor of various cartoon character-based merchandises. Since 1998, it has engaged itself in retail store operation. It is the exclusive manufacturer and distributor of Robby Rabbit merchandise. Now, it is known as one of the country's leading one-stop-shop for cartoon-character-based merchandise and continues in developing high-quality children's bags and accessories. Accordingly, this award only confirms that commitment and dedication in giving the Filipino consumers the best quality at reasonable price will never be left unrecognized. Visit one of its branches.



**MARKETING DIRECTORS' SCHOOL**

International Marketing Group (IMG), one of the largest financial brokers in the Philippines, recently held a marketing directors' school at the Waterfront Hotel in Cebu City attended by over 2,000 marketing directors of the company. IMG aims to restore the trust in the financial services industry. Shown are the marketing directors who attended with Xuan Nguyen (inset) of the World Financial Group (WFG), who facilitated the affair.

## HP holds 'Trade In, Trade Up' promo until April 30

YOUR old fax machines now have a chance to be transformed into sleek and functional Laserjet All-in-One printers as HP Philippines brings back its "Trade In, Trade Up" promo. Up to April 30, business organizations can purchase an HP LaserJet 3015 All-in-One (printer/fax/scanner/copier) for only P15,000 by trading their fax machines to any of the listed HP resellers, saving them more than P5,000. Any brand of fax machines, functioning or non-functioning, will be accepted. Participating resellers include Accent Micro/PC Live (634-2417), CT Link (893-9515), Infoworx (897-5147), Silicon Valley (633-1723), and TCA-The Computer Authority (752-8821).

# Get a good night's sleep the natural way

SLEEP is as essential as balanced diet and regular exercise to stay fit and healthy. But today's lifestyle seems to have overlooked the necessity of sleep. Hence, it is sometimes ignored. But the fact remains that sleep is one form of pleasure that our body longs for at the end of every day-and if we deprive ourselves of a sound rejuvenating sleep, the end effect is a cascade of numerous health problems you wouldn't even think can be traced to sleep deprivation.

Below is a list of how to get a relaxing and rejuvenating sleep-read on!

o Try to go to sleep at the same time each night and get up at the same time each morning.

- Avoid caffeine, nicotine and alcohol late in the day.
- Get regular exercise, but try not to exercise close to bedtime because it may stimulate you and make it hard to fall asleep.
- Make your sleeping place comfortable.
- Follow a routine to help relax and wind down before sleeping such as reading a book, listening to soft music, or taking a bath.
- If you have trouble lying awake worrying about things, make a "to do" list before you go to bed. This will help condition the mind towards relaxation.

If you have problems sleeping, consult your doctor for you may have physical or psychological disorders. However, if you are physically and mentally healthy but still can't fall asleep, do not take sleeping pills as last resort. Remember that there are natural means to help solve sleeping problems such as Leizenzi herbal food supplement from Better Herbs Inc. It will not make you sleep immediately, but once its effect manifests in the body, it will improve your sleep quality and length. It will not make you sleepy during day, only at night because its action is on the brain and body's sleep-wake cycle. It helps establish your sleeping pattern by regulating the body clock.

Leizenzi, formerly Better Sleep, is now available at Mercury Drug & Watsons. For more information, call 721-4376, 723-4376 or text 0918-9349347.

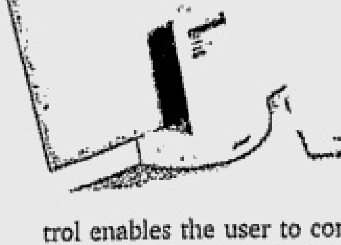
**BEAR BRAND CHOOSES STI FOR 2005 KITEFEST**

For the second straight year, Bear Brand, the ideal family milk, chooses STI, the country's largest network of computer colleges, to provide the computerized and accurate results of the competition for all the legs of the Bear Brand Kitefest. After conquering Dumaguete, Lingayen, Tacloban, General Santos and Palawan where previous numbers of participants for all cities were exceeded, the 15th Bear Brand Kitefest will go to Davao on April 24, Lucena on May 8 and Manila on May 15. Shown, from left, are Dennis Maristany, Jay Redondo and Leslie Noble of L'Noble Ventures, the event organizer, with STI's Elbert L. De Guzman, Resty O. Bondoc and Redjer R. Agudo during the contract signing.

## ProductFILES

## Bose's digital music system

APPLE'S iPod portable music player has changed the way people listen to music. Millions of iPod owners worldwide use their players to take music collections wherever they go, and industry observers expect over a million more consumers to buy iPods during the holiday season. But the iPod experience is usually a private one, confining music to headphones and computers. The rapid growth of the iPod creates a new opportunity for Bose to meet the needs of iPod owners with the new SoundDock digital music system.



The SoundDock digital music system is a powered acoustic package with a remote control and an iPod docking cradle. Simply insert the iPod into the cradle and experience a new level in digital music. The SoundDock system's sleek appearance blends with the iPod and almost any décor. Its slim profile and small footprint allow placement in kitchens, bedrooms, offices and dorm rooms.

The SoundDock system's appearance complements its ease of use. An infrared remote control enables the user to control the system and the iPod from almost anywhere in the room. With the docking cradle, there's no need for special adapters or stereo cables and it also acts as a charger for your iPod. "The SoundDock system enhances the performance of the iPod. Music lovers will surely be impressed by the quality of sound provided by such a small package," states Wilson So, president and GM of Eleksis Marketing Corp, exclusive distributors of Bose entertainment systems.

The SoundDock is available in audio and appliance centers nationwide. For inquiries on how to experience a new level of Digital music, call 724-9566 or 898-2048, or log on to www.eleksis.com.

## Simply Winning Its Way to the Customer's Heart

Time is of the essence for you. Not one minute is spent lingering on some trivial task, like applying for car insurance. With Direct Link, your possible worries in getting car insurance have been put to rest. How? By keeping it simple. And that's what kept Direct Link close to its customer's heart through the years and earned for it the most-coveted distinction of being Number 1.

Direct Link began its operations in 1998, in partnership with such reputable names in the marketing and finance industries such as Crowe Group of London, a recognized leader in direct marketing, and the UCPB Group, a key player in the insurance industry. Since then, Direct Link, backed by the unwavering support of UCPB Group, has revolutionized auto motor insurance here in the Philippines by keeping this simple principle – to provide C.onvenient, A.ffordable, and R.eliable motorcar insurance.

Unlike other car insurance providers, Direct Link makes it easy for you to get car insurance by simply dialing 88-725-88. Your call is then directed to its friendly Simpleng Kausap Account Servicers ready to answer your queries. Using a highly computerized operation, all pertinent information regarding your car insurance is documented quickly and accurately. Guaranteed, you can get your policy the next day, delivered right at your doorstep! What's more, Direct Link does not employ agents or middlemen, so your transactions are forwarded straight to the right authority and no commission payments are made. You're assured of lower insurance cost, faster delivery of services and direct access to communications, as transactions are easily managed via phone, fax and internet.

As a policyholder of Direct Link, you automatically become an exclusive member of the Direct Link Rescue Club, which entitles you to 24-hour roadside, medical and accident assistance nationwide, vehicle removal, minor on-site repairs, towing services, alternative transport and hotel accommodation assistance, emergency message relay assistance, critical information referral assistance, motorcar registration assistance, and access to Gawa Agad centers. Gawa Agad centers are selected repair shops of up to 4 to 5-Star CASA standards strategically located around Metro Manila ready to attend to your needs in case of emergency. As part of Direct Link's exclusive Gawa Agad Program (GAP), these centers administer hassle-free claims processing for immediate repair of vehicles.

Indeed, with all these premium services from Direct Link, it's no wonder it has been recognized as the Number 1 Car Insurance Nationwide for 2004 by the National Shoppers' Choice Annual Awards. As a joint undertaking by the Asia Pacific Shoppers' Choice Institute, Shoppers' Choice Magazine, Essence Magazine, Essence Privilege Card, Hernz KPMR Marketing Inc., and the Asian-Philippine Association of Marketing Professionals, the National Shoppers' Choice Annual Awards aim to make the public aware of companies that have excelled and motivate these companies to raise the bar of excellence for the greater benefit of shoppers and consumers. With this token of achievement, expect more from a company with a passion for winning the customer's heart without being complicated. Direct Link -- Simpleng Kausap.

# Isang Simpleng Pasasalamat sa Inspirasyon ng Aming Tagumpay!

national shoppers' choice
2004
ANNUAL AWARDS
2004
NATIONAL SHOPPER'S CHOICE
ANNUAL AWARDS
is presented to
Direct Link
No. 1 Car Insurance (National)
for its excellence in product quality, company reputation, brand recognition, and consumer services.
Conferred this 23rd day of February 2005 at the Hotel Dusit Nikko, Makati City by the Asia-Pacific Shoppers' Choice Institute, Shoppers' Choice Magazine, Essence Privilege Card, Hernz KPMR Marketing, Inc and the Asian-Philippine Association of Marketing Professionals

*Simple lang ang aming hiling.*
*Ang makamit ang inyong lubos na pagtangkilik.*

*Sa inyong pagtitiwala, nakamit namin ang karangalan bilang*
***Number 1 Car Insurance Nationwide***
*for 2004 mula sa*
***National Shoppers' Choice Annual Awards.***

*Mula sa lahat ng bumubuo ng Direct Link,*
*taos-puso kaming nagpapasalamat sa*
*inyong walang sawang pag-suporta.*

*Ang simpleng pagkilalang ito ay*
*inihahandog namin sa inyo.*

Simpleng Kausap.
**direct link**
**car insurance**
**Call now for details!**
**88-725-88**
Toll Free 1-800-1888 LINK (5465)

**For a FREE no-obligation quotation, please fax this at 88-725-89 now!**

Name:______________________ Tel. No.:______________ Fax No.:______________
Address:______________________ Car brand:______________________
______________________ Yr/Model No.:______________ Plate No.:______________

# How to profit from eggplant production

**By Anselmo Roque**
*PDI Central Luzon Desk*

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ—Don't underestimate the value of the eggplant. Culinary-wise, it may just look like an ordinary vegetable. But in terms of production and income that it provides to growers, it is a very valuable crop, indeed.

In terms of volume, the eggplant is number one among the vegetables produced in the country. The country ranks 7th among the world's top eggplant producers.

According to the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD), the value of eggplants produced in the country in 1997 was P1.5 billion.

In 2003, according to a project report of the UP Los Baños Institute of Plant Breeding (UPLB-IBP), annual eggplant production hit P1.8 billion.

The area dedicated to the cultivation of this crop was about 18,000 hectares in 1997. By 2003, the area expanded to 19,000 hectares.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) have identified the eggplant as a priority crop for research and development.

PCARRD studies showed that with proper cultural practices, farmers can harvest as much as 18,000 kilograms of eggplants from a hectare of land.

At a farm gate price of P10 a kilo, the gross is P180,000 per hectare.

Cost of production, PCARRD said, is P92,123 per hectare. Thus in just one season, a successful farmer can take in a net income of P87,877 per hectare.

During a production glut, however, the farm gate price of eggplant plunges to P5 a kilo or even less. In this case, the net income for the producer scales down.

The national average wholesale price of eggplant is P11.43 a kilo. There are times, however, that the farm gate price of eggplant goes as high as P15 a kilo, which bodes well for the farmers.

And there are times after a destructive typhoon or flooding, when eggplant sells for even higher at P50 a kilo. In December last year, selling prices rose to a record high of P80 a kilo due to a spate of typhoons and flash floods that hit some parts of Luzon.

Eggplant (*Solarium melongena L.*) is a highly fibrous vegetable that contains about 6 percent carbohydrates and one percent protein. It is a good source of calcium, phosphorous, iron and Vitamin B.

A biennial solanaceous crop, this plant is adaptable both in upland and lowland areas. It may be grown anytime of the year in almost all parts of the country.

The recommended varieties for eggplant production, according to PCARRD, are Dumaguete Long Purple, Bulakeña, Claveria KS and the preferred varieties are Casino, Long Purple, Sinampedro, Bureau, and Llamado.

Other known varieties of eggplants used by growers include the Nueva Ecija Green, Jackpot Long Green, Black Ninja, Dingras Multiple Purple #1, Economic Garden Long Purple, UPL-Eg-s, Bingo, Batangas Long Purple, Pampanga Purple, Negros Purple, Simmeda, and native. The imported seed varieties are Black Beauty and Golden Gate.

A hybrid, called "Mistisa," was developed recently by a plant breeder of UPLB-IPB. This hybrid variety is resistant to shoot and fruit borers and to bacterial wilt.

Among the provinces, the top eggplant producers are: Ilocos region, 32 percent; Cagayan Valley, 26 percent; Southern Tagalog, 14 percent; Central Luzon, 10 percent; Western Visayas, 6 percent; Bicol, 3 percent; and the rest of the regions, 9 percent.

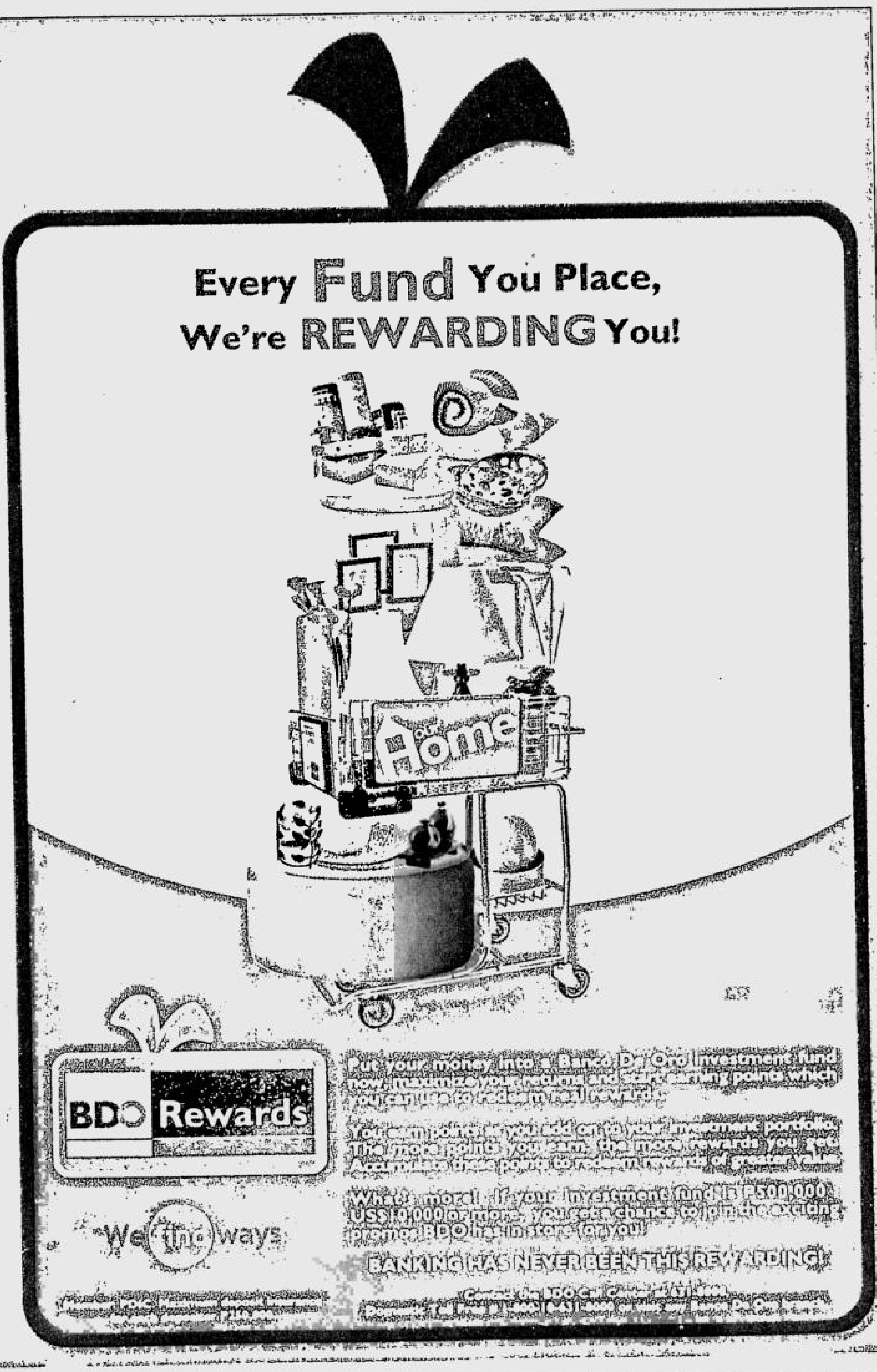
Per capita consumption of eggplant in the country has been placed at 2.27 kilograms a year, according to PCARRD studies.

## Pointers

The Central Luzon State University (CLSU) in Muñoz City gave the following pointers to those who are interested to go into eggplant production:

- Produce the seedlings to be trans-

HOW TO EARN/ B3-2



Every Fund You Place, We're REWARDING You!

BDO Rewards

We find ways

Put your money into a Banco De Oro Investment fund now, maximize your returns and start earning points which you can use to redeem real rewards.

You earn points as you add on to your investment portfolio. The more points you earn, the more rewards you get. Accumulate these points to [illegible]

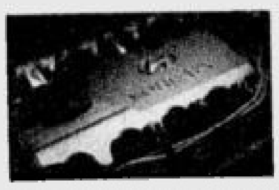
What's more! If your investment fund is P500,000/US$10,000 or more, you get a chance to join the exciting promos BDO has in store for you!

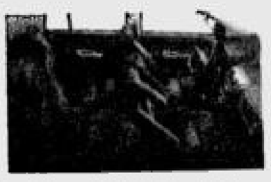
BANKING HAS NEVER BEEN THIS REWARDING!

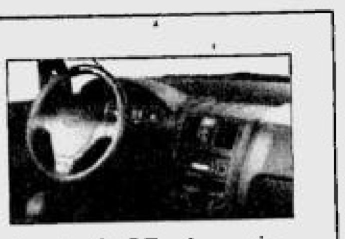
[illegible]

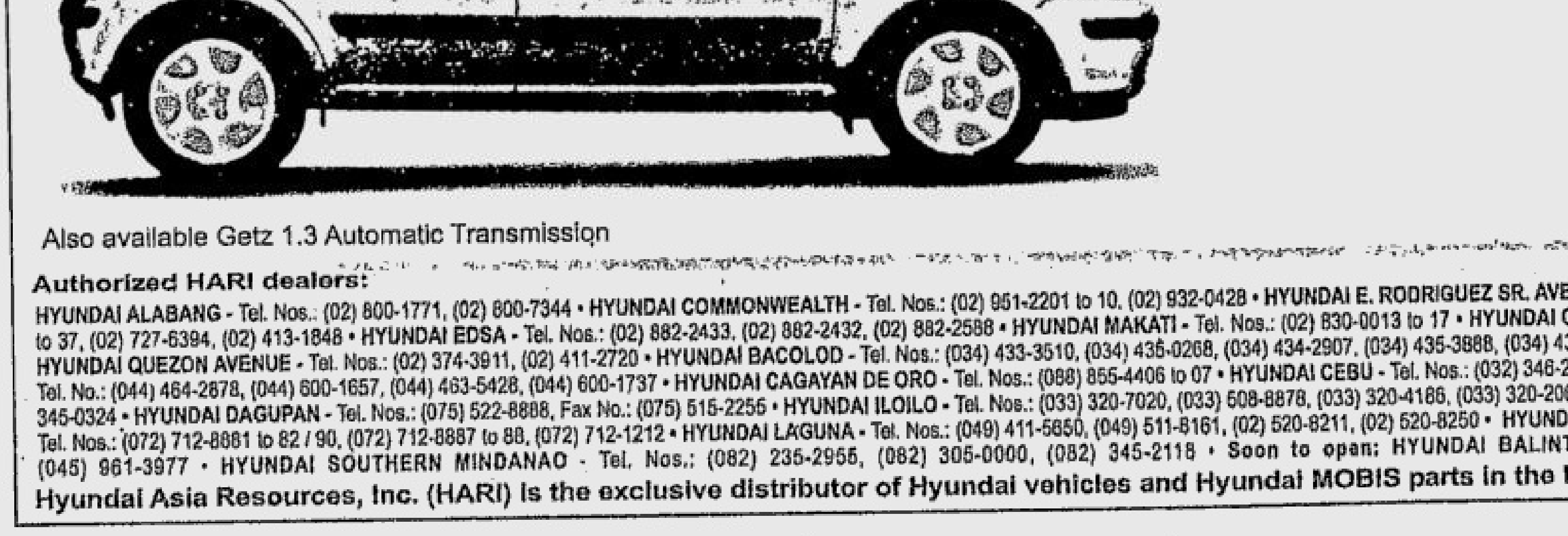
Getz excited!

Let the new Hyundai Getz that seats 5 people, excite you with its 1.1L Alpha SOHC EFI engine that delivers a maximum power of 62ps at 5500 rpm. That's responsive performance without sacrificing fuel-efficiency!


Intelligent driving with the power & fuel efficiency of a **1.1L SOHC EFI engine.**


Designed to seat 5 passengers


**In-dash CD player** in a distinctive ergonomic cockpit



Getz
Life Getz even better!

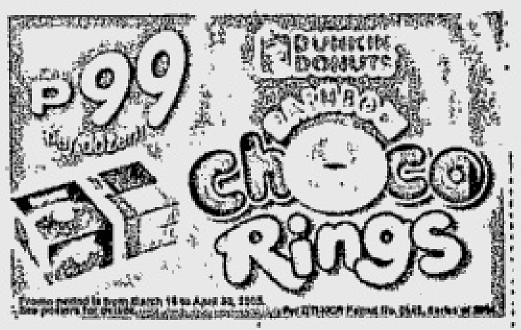
Also available Getz 1.3 Automatic Transmission

**Authorized HARI dealers:**
HYUNDAI ALABANG - Tel. Nos.: (02) 800-1771, (02) 800-7344 • HYUNDAI COMMONWEALTH - Tel. Nos.: (02) 951-2201 to 10, (02) 932-0428 • HYUNDAI E. RODRIGUEZ SR. AVE. - Tel. Nos.: (02) 722-0932, (02) 722-0936 to 37, (02) 727-6394, (02) 413-1848 • HYUNDAI EDSA - Tel. Nos.: (02) 882-2433, (02) 882-2432, (02) 882-2588 • HYUNDAI MAKATI - Tel. Nos.: (02) 830-0013 to 17 • HYUNDAI ORTIGAS - Tel. Nos.: (02) 723-9101 to 07 • HYUNDAI QUEZON AVENUE - Tel. Nos.: (02) 374-3911, (02) 411-2720 • HYUNDAI BACOLOD - Tel. Nos.: (034) 433-3510, (034) 435-0268, (034) 434-2907, (034) 435-3888, (034) 434-8051 to 52 • HYUNDAI CABANATUAN - Tel. No.: (044) 464-2878, (044) 600-1657, (044) 463-5428, (044) 600-1737 • HYUNDAI CAGAYAN DE ORO - Tel. Nos.: (088) 855-4406 to 07 • HYUNDAI CEBU - Tel. Nos.: (032) 346-2724, (032) 346-0187, (032) 345-4146, (032) 345-0324 • HYUNDAI DAGUPAN - Tel. Nos.: (075) 522-8888, Fax No.: (075) 515-2256 • HYUNDAI ILOILO - Tel. Nos.: (033) 320-7020, (033) 508-8878, (033) 320-4186, (033) 320-2069, (033) 320-2248 • HYUNDAI LA UNION - Tel. Nos.: (072) 712-8881 to 82 / 90, (072) 712-8887 to 88, (072) 712-1212 • HYUNDAI LAGUNA - Tel. Nos.: (049) 411-5650, (049) 511-8161, (02) 520-8211, (02) 520-8250 • HYUNDAI PAMPANGA - Tel. Nos.: (045) 961-1184, (045) 961-3977 • HYUNDAI SOUTHERN MINDANAO - Tel. Nos.: (082) 235-2955, (082) 305-0000, (082) 345-2118 • Soon to open: HYUNDAI BALINTAWAK and HYUNDAI CAVITE CITY
**Hyundai Asia Resources, Inc. (HARI) is the exclusive distributor of Hyundai vehicles and Hyundai MOBIS parts in the Philippines.**

HYUNDAI
Drive your way

# LIFESTYLE

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph
**Text us your feedback:**
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)
*Editor* **Chelo Banal-Formoso**
*Subsection Editor* **Lito B. Zulueta**



The entire Philippines should be declared a billboard-free zone, and many readers seem to agree

# Citizens speak up on billboard mess

**PRIDE OF PLACE**

*Augusto F. Villalon*

READERS sent in so much e-mail many responses to last week's column on the current Filipino billboard mania. I'm sharing their sentiments with readers.

Randy David's "Billboard Nation" is so fitting a description of the present state of our environment.

Clearly we have gone overboard with billboards. Now that they have covered practically every vista in the country, the Filipino has turned a blind eye, pretending not to notice that billboards offend, block vistas, and debase nature and the environment.

An e-mail from New Jersey (USA)

CITIZENS/ C2

Globe International Services and Island Caravan's tropical adventure

Nestled in the heart of the Philippine archipelago, the islands of Central Visayas are renowned for their wealth of natural attractions and gracious hospitality that keep visitors coming back for more. This summer, Globe Handyphone's Island Caravan, in cooperation with the Department of Tourism, Island Caravan Consortium and Skoal Advertising, takes travelers on a breathtaking journey throughout the region.

From the historic sites of Cebu to Bohol's picturesque Chocolate Hills, Oriental Negros' breathtaking Twin Lakes and the unspoiled beaches of Siquijor, the Island Caravan participants marveled at each province's natural beauty and were honored by the unprecedented generosity and support of the respective local government units, whose local officials pulled out all the stops to make the travelers truly welcome. And to ensure that holidaymakers can touch base with loved ones back home, Globe Handyphone offers the Globe Traveler SIM, which provides tourists with Globe International Services such as affordable 40¢-a-minute IDD, International Text and MMS, roaming assistance and travel information. What's more, tourists can avail of the Globe Traveler SIM for free with select tour packages.

Indeed, the Island Caravan participants had much to share about their 5-day voyage, most notably the entertaining graduation party held in the idyllic seaside city of Dumaguete. Travelers flocked to the city's hip and happening Rizal Boulevard to honor the tourists and show them how to party, Negrense-style. The celebration was graced by Tourism secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano, who professed his continued support for tourism-generating projects such as Globe Handyphone's Island Caravan.

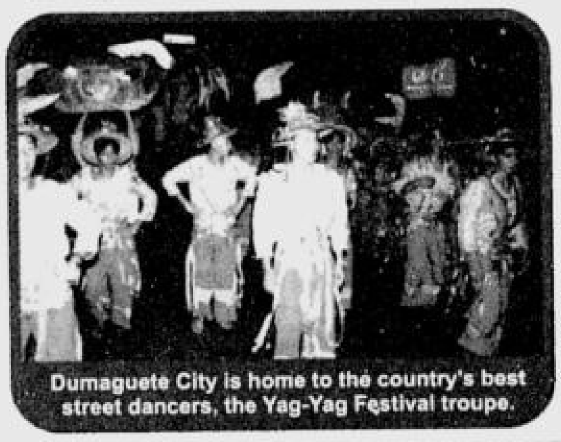
Succeeding Island Caravan runs will showcase the ecotourism, adventure, cuisine and cultural attractions of Luzon and Mindanao. So what are you waiting for? Join Island Caravan and take part in a totally awesome travel adventure!

For more information on exotic locales and how great summers are made possible by Globe, call 8177620 and 8921123, or log on to our website www.islandcaravan.com

GLOBE PREPAID SIM TRAVELER EDITION

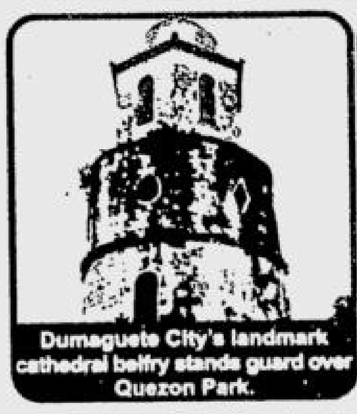
Globe International Services
40¢IDD • TEXT • MMS

Island Caravan organizers Maureen Abelardo of Skoal Advertising, Globe International Services' Carmina Marquez, Tourism secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano, Globe Corporate Marketing's Cynthia Mangahas and Island Caravan Consortium president Cesar Cruz.

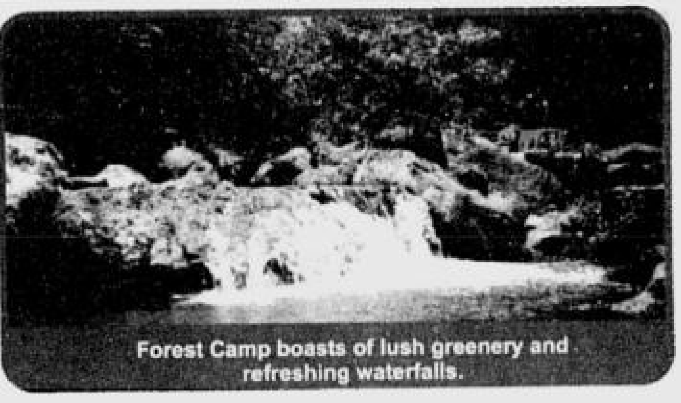


Dumaguete City is home to the country's best street dancers, the Yag-Yag Festival troupe.

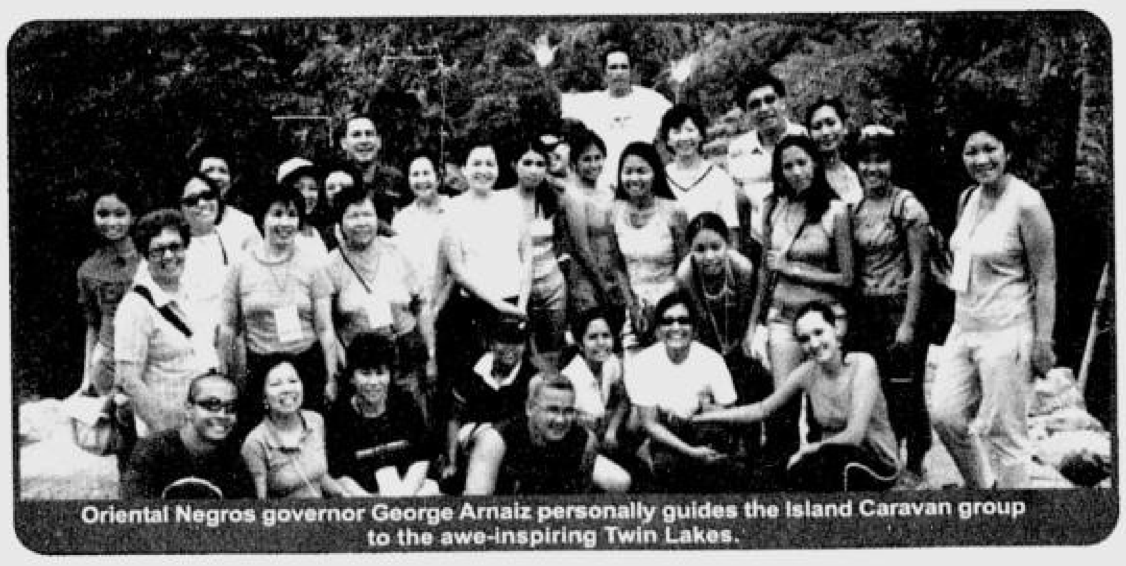
DOT Regional Director for Region 7 Patria Aurora Roa congratulates Dante Pascual, the oldest participant to complete the Island Caravan run.



Dumaguete City's landmark cathedral belfry stands guard over Quezon Park.

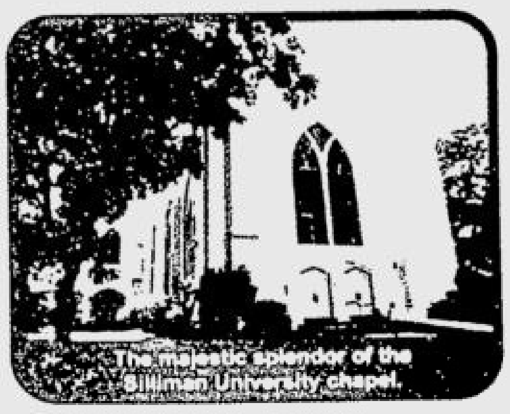


Forest Camp boasts of lush greenery and refreshing waterfalls.



Oriental Negros governor George Arnaiz personally guides the Island Caravan group to the awe-inspiring Twin Lakes.

Silliman University provides modern education in an old-world setting.



The majestic splendor of the Silliman University chapel.

making a great summer possible Globe HANDYPHONE

The new BMW 3 Series at The Fort.

The new BMW 3 Series
www.bmw.com.ph
Sheer Driving Pleasure

The new BMW 3 Series Central Product Experience
BMW Pavilion, Bonifacio Global City
April 16 to 24, 2005
9:00am to 5:00pm

# Citizens speak up on billboard mess

From page C1

said: "Filipinos obviously have a complete disregard for the environment. Why this twisted fascination with billboards, I don't know. But, hey, we let a mall rise behind the Manila City Hall, a fast food joint inside the Rizal Park. This has completely ruined what I've always considered to be the most beautiful vista in Manila.

"New York is in dire need of open land but it has kept its Central Park open for the benefit of its people. New Jersey, however small compared to other states, is a thrill to drive up and down its length because of the trees."

He ends: "I dread the day when I no longer see the grand buildings of the National Museum and in its place a megamall."

## Manila's degradation

Wrote another reader: "I see by your picture we must be about the same age. I am 78 and have lived in the Philippines off and on since 1932, when I first came here with my parents. My father was in the US Navy and served at the Canacao Naval Hospital in Cavite.

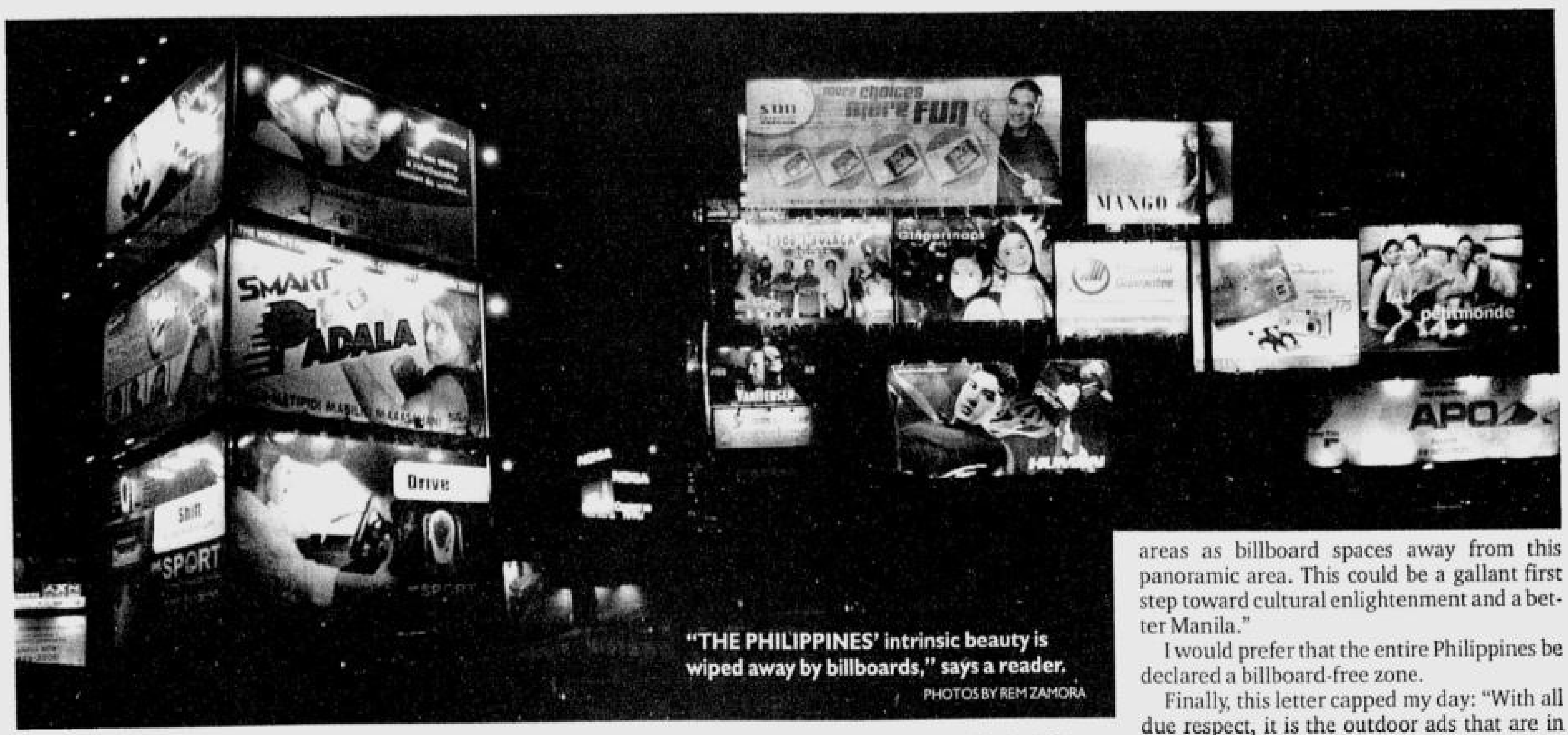
"Your article brought back memories of what it was like in the Philippines in my two previous stays. When I came in 2001, I was saddened by the degradation of the beauty of Metro Manila and the countryside in Cavite. I congratulate you on your article. It is very good but I am afraid it, too, will be ignored as are the other articles on the same subject matter.

"I have a lot I could say... particularly as it applies to Subic Bay where the management (SBMA) can stop the poor practices that have led Metro Manila to its present ugliness. Subic Bay is about to undergo tremendous growth in the next few years, and while it is small in comparison to Metro Manila, things like banners, billboards, trash, disobedience, etc., etc., should be addressed now, and corrected, before it becomes uncontrollable, as is the case in Metro Manila.

"I suppose one could say the ugliness is the result of the growth and culture. Growth, yes. Culture, no. Philippine culture is based on beauty—the beauty of its bays, mountains, people, songs and dances, colors, courtesies, quaintness, etc. However, all of this beauty is wiped away by what we see today in Metro Manila (and other places in the Philippines) by those in control who, for whatever reasons, have chosen to abandon the culture of the Philippines in favor of growth at any cost.

"Yesterday, my wife and I drove to Makati. I saw billboards, banners, trash, disobedience, etc., etc. If I tried to read the billboards and banners, I would have had a traffic accident; and if I couldn't read them as I drove, what purpose do they serve? Billboards and banners do not add any beauty to the already damaged environment. We noted that many were the height of a five- to eight-floor building and maybe even higher.

"I love the Philippines but have had to accept what I see. I just don't have to like what I see."



"THE PHILIPPINES' intrinsic beauty is wiped away by billboards," says a reader.

PHOTOS BY REM ZAMORA

## Sad state

As so expressively pointed out by another concerned Manileño: "Manila and the rest of other major cities in our country are in a sad state of decay. I think as a people we have been conditioned to prioritize the present. Amnesia plagues everyone. It seems no one cares for the past. It's really sad, very sad.

"I visited the newly renovated National Museum four Sundays ago... and I was surprised at its renovated interiors and exhibition spaces. The old Finance Building interior was restored to its old grandeur. I wanted to see the "Spoliarium," but the gallery section that housed the masterpiece was still under renovation.

"I went out of the museum with a feeling of pride, but when I went out of the building to the parking area, I realized that I was the only one parked, a lone car in the huge parking area. Nearby was a *kalesa* with a panting horse rented by a lone tourist, a visitor of the museum.

"GUADALUPE should be billboard-free," says a reader.

"Ongoing at the Agrifina Circle was the installation of the monumental Lapu-Lapu sculpture. The huge globe that used to be in the center of the skating rink was being replaced by [a statue of] our first national hero who looked like a long-haired Alfredo Lim. I had always pictured Lapu-lapu as a Malay warrior.

"Corporate minds and media giants should be made to realize that they play a vital role in making our country a wonderful place to live in. Unwavering support for cultural projects should be part of their agenda.

"There is an increasing vacuum in our history that needs filling in. It should be an intelligent past devoid of the current shallow and trivial pursuits that proliferate in our present culture. *Parati na lang ngayon, ngayon, ngayon...*

"And finally, regarding the undesirable proliferation of billboards, I suggest that all advertisers should declare the Guadalupe area a billboard-free site and finally allocate specific areas as billboard spaces away from this panoramic area. This could be a gallant first step toward cultural enlightenment and a better Manila."

I would prefer that the entire Philippines be declared a billboard-free zone.

Finally, this letter capped my day: "With all due respect, it is the outdoor ads that are in reality giving our metropolis a better aesthetic look. Because if we take out all the outdoor advertising in Metro Manila, what would be left are mostly old, ugly buildings done by mostly unimaginative architects who happen to get building design contracts just because they know their clients ..."

## Heritage watch

Lumière presents architectural photographs of Kyoto and Nara by Ramon Orlina until May 7. A portion from the sale of each artwork will benefit the Heritage Conservation Society, Taal-CHARM (Church Historical Authentic Restoration Movement), Blessed Virgin of Caysasay Foundation and the Taal Heritage Foundation.

To promote greater awareness on the need to preserve our heritage and national patrimony, conservation practitioners from the Heritage Conservation Society will conduct a conservation forum, 4-6 p.m., on Wednesday, April 27, in Lumière at Locsin Building, Ayala Avenue cor. Makati Avenues. Seats are limited, so please call the Heritage Conservation Society at 5212239 or 5222497 for reservation.

*Feedback is welcome at afvillalon@hotmail.com*

Long division, fractions, and the things that truly count.

Mr. Lao exhaled a whispered prayer as he opened the envelope. He knew that inside, his son Raymund's latest grades would be waiting, and he wasn't too hopeful. Raymund hadn't been doing well since early in the school year and he could see no reason for things to be better this quarter. "He lacks concentration," his teacher said. "It's like when he sees numbers he turns away so he can look at other things instead." Mr. Lao closed the envelope again.

"Pare, don't worry. Raymund will be fine. I used to hate math myself. And I'm a banker." That's what Ernie had told Mr. Lao over coffee as they studied the latest financials of Mr. Lao's linen business. Ernie was Mr. Lao's banker at iBank. He took care of Mr. Lao's corporate account, and was used to dropping by his office to facilitate transactions. "Maybe I can find a tutor for him," Ernie offered.

Mr. Lao had wanted to say "Thanks, but I've already tried and no tutor wants to take him on. They're too concerned about helping students who are already doing well. Besides it's too late in the year."

But he didn't say that. Something in Ernie's manner sparked a sense of hope in Mr. Lao. So instead, "Thanks, Ernie. I'd really appreciate it."

And Ernie did find a tutor. "She helps my sister's son with his math lessons, too, so she knows what she's doing. Besides, she's really patient. Mahusay talaga," he explained.

Mr. Lao had been really thankful then. Specially when he saw the renewed eagerness with which Raymund tackled even the trickiest fractions.

"You didn't have to, Ernie. But thank you so much. Salamat."

"Anything to help, sir."

But that was a semester ago. And today, Mr. Lao fumbled nervously with the envelope. "I'll have to recommend him to transfer schools if his grades don't get better," the teacher had said. Mr. Lao drew out the card. Amid a jumble of mid to high line of eights it stood out rather plainly:

Math: 93.

Raymund had apparently done his job. So had the tutor. And Ernie as well.

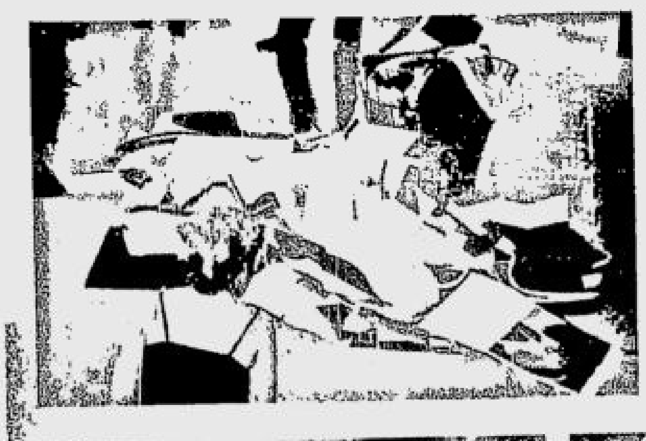
Chuckling at his own lack of faith, Mr. Lao got up, and got ready to drop by the bank.

He had some thank yous to make.

(Wouldn't it be great to have a bank that took care of your non-financial assets as assiduously as your financial ones? Make the story above, or one just like it, your story. Give us at iBank a try today.)

iBank
International Exchange Bank
TAKING RELATIONSHIPS TO HEART

Member MEGALINK • Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation. Maximum Deposit Insurance for Each Depositor P250,000 • Contact Call Center No. 878-8787 • Website: www.ibank.com.ph • The story told here is true and based on actual facts. Some details were slightly modified to protect the privacy and identities of the people involved.



"TEARING to Pieces," by Annie Cabigting

**NATIONAL** Office of Mass Media executive director Fr. James Reuter blesses paintings of 30 artists from the Pampanga Arts Guild, led by AAP president Fidel Sarmiento. The event formally opens an anti-corruption and anti-poverty exhibit at the Presidential Museum hosted by director Jeremy Barnes and National Commission for Culture and the Arts, under executive director Cecile Guidote Alvarez (second from right). The artists presented the exhibit as their birthday gift to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

# Cid Reyes at West . . .

From page C4

enue, QC. The exhibit features steel sculptures. Call 4110332/ 4119221.

**GALERIA de las Islas** showcases the Aquarellists' "Blooming" until May 4 at the 3/F, Silahis Center, 744 Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila. The watercolor paintings are by Cesar del Mundo, Nik Masangcay Jr., Bert Duldulao, Rose Naning Gavin, Babes Molata, Robert Deniega, Sherie Sta. Cruz, Raquel Faustinorio, Renn Maglalang, Ojing Obemio, Joel Ibariolaza and Gregorio Dantes Jr. Call 5272113.

**GALLERY 139** features Ting Gonzalez's "Bene" on April 22-May 4 at 3/L, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati. The exhibit showcases furniture fashioned from recycled *molave*, *ipil*, *balayong* and *kamagong*. The artist will donate a portion of the sales from his exhibition to Bantay Bata. Call 7289724.

**AYALA Museum** and Ayala Land Inc. will hold the workshop, "A Day with an Artist," on April 23, 3:30 p.m., at the fountain area of Greenbelt Park, Makati. Portrait and landscape artist Romulo Galicano will open the event. Still-life artist Fernando Sena will be featured on April 30. Call 7577117 to 21 local 28.

**AYALA Museum** mounts "Multiple Originals, Original Multiples" until July 10. The exhibit features 19th-century images of Philippine costumes. Call 7577117.

**THE ALCOVE Photo Gallery** will hold Primer on Photographic Lighting by Jay Alonzo on May 7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue, Ayala Triangle, Makati. The workshop will focus on lighting concepts and techniques. Call 8921801.

**THE NATIONAL Museum** will conduct a seminar-workshop on Basic Museology on May 18-June 9 at National Museum Main Building. The course will focus on the different phases of museum work. Call 5270278.

**GANTIMPALA Theater Foundation** holds summer musical theater workshops for kids, teens and young adults at the rehearsal hall of Concert at the Park auditorium. Facilitators are Roence Santos (children's class), and Angie Panogan and Nazer Salcedo (teens and young adults class). Call 5280603/ 5365860.

PHOTOJOURNALIST Jose Enrique Soriano (more known as Derek Soriano) holds "Episodes: Still Photos of the Unstill Mind," at the UP Vargas Museum until May 8. His subjects are the patients of the National Center for Mental Health in Mandaluyong. Soriano's photographs have been published in Life Magazine, Time, Newsweek, Vanity Fair, SELF, Elle, and other foreign publications. Call 9281927 or 9281925 local 7408.

DIGITAL IXUS

Canon
Delighting You Always

BEAUTY AND STRENGTH IN ONE

DIGITAL IXUS 700

IXUS 700

If style and substance are what you seek, the Digital IXUS is your choice.

The perfect personification of features and flair, the Digital IXUS 700, IXUS 50, IXUS 40, IXUS 30, and IXUS i5 provide high-powered performance in stunningly beautiful packages. Visit your Canon dealers today and get a FREE 128MB MP3 Player / Flash Drive with every purchase.

Promo runs April 10 to June 30, 2005.

STAR WARS EPISODE III REVENGE OF THE SITH
In Theaters May 2005

FEEL THE FORCE WITH CANON

© 2005 Lucasfilm Ltd. & TM

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1469, Series of 2005.

POWERED BY DIGIC

DIGITAL IXUS i5
DIGITAL IXUS 30
DIGITAL IXUS 40
DIGITAL IXUS 50

Insist on an original warranty issued by Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc.
2F Marvin Plaza Bldg., 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, cor. V.A. Rufino St., Makati City • Tels.: 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 / 892-6449
Fax: 810-9797 • info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

*School starts in 5 minutes.*

*No pressure. Only pleasure.*

*Know more about the pleasures your family will enjoy!*
*Come to our Open House on April 24!*

MANOR RIDGE at
Highlands Pointe
TAYTAY, RIZAL
A quality community of Filinvest East County

*Come home to Manor Ridge at Highlands Pointe and enjoy the incredible convenience and privilege of having* **San Beda College Rizal** *as a next-door neighbor. Easily accessible from the Ortigas Center, your community comes complete with beautiful rolling hills, balmy breezes, blazing sunsets and an amazing view of the metropolis!*

*Live in a community that can give you more quality moments spent with the entire family, Manor Ridge at Highlands Pointe!*

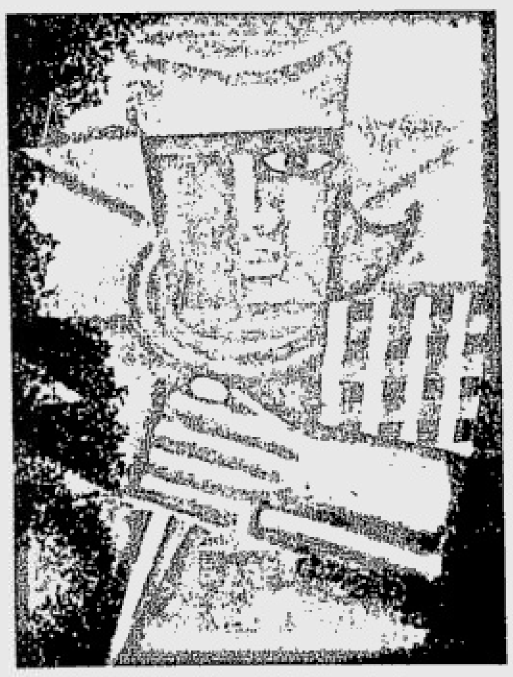
722-1032
www.filinvestland.com

FILINVEST
INVEST ON SOLID GROUND

**THE RECENT** exhibit of Soler and Mona Santos not only fused two different art expressions in one exhibit but also brought together family members, art lovers and artists at SM Megamall Art Center. The exhibit showcased Soler's "Waterfall" series and Mona's blooms. Photo shows Mona and Soler flanking Finale's Evita Serenas and Roberto Chabet.

# Cid Reyes at West, Alvarado at Penguin

**CID Reyes** holds his 11th solo show "Demoiselles de Manille" until April 26 at West Gallery, 4/L, Megamall A. The show is based on Picasso's "Demoiselles d'Avignon," regarded as the first Cubist painting. This is the first time the critic-artist works on the human figure, rendered in the Abstract Expressionist idiom. Call 8142116/ 8142115.



"KAPYOT sa Patalom," by Nunelucio Alvarado

## VISUAL ARTS

**PENGUIN Café** presents Nunelucio Alvarado's "Lonely Table" until May 15 at 604 Remedios St., Malate, Manila. The exhibit is a tableau of small abstract works on canvas and paper capturing various individuals sitting alone in a restaurant or café.

**FINALE Art Gallery** features Annie Cabigting's "100 Pcs" until April 26 at the Artwalk, 4/L, Megamall A. The subject of the show is art itself, specifically art events and their time and place in history. Call 6342410/ 6342411.

CID Reyes pays tribute to Picasso.

**THE ART Gallery** mounts "Pinta-Otso" today until May 6 at the G/F lobby, Medical Arts Bldg., Philippine Heart Center, East Ave., QC. The exhibit features works in oil and acrylic on canvas, watercolor and pastel. Participating artists are Lyndon Garrovillas, Manny de Guzman Jr., Joel Janer, Dani Javier, Delia Solis, Carl Vien Tibang, Norberto Villez and Pol Mesina Jr. Call 6502941.

**WEST Gallery** showcases Pete Jimenez's "Still on Steel" until May 10 at the Sculpture Room, Mary Santos Artcade, 48 West Av-

CID/ C3

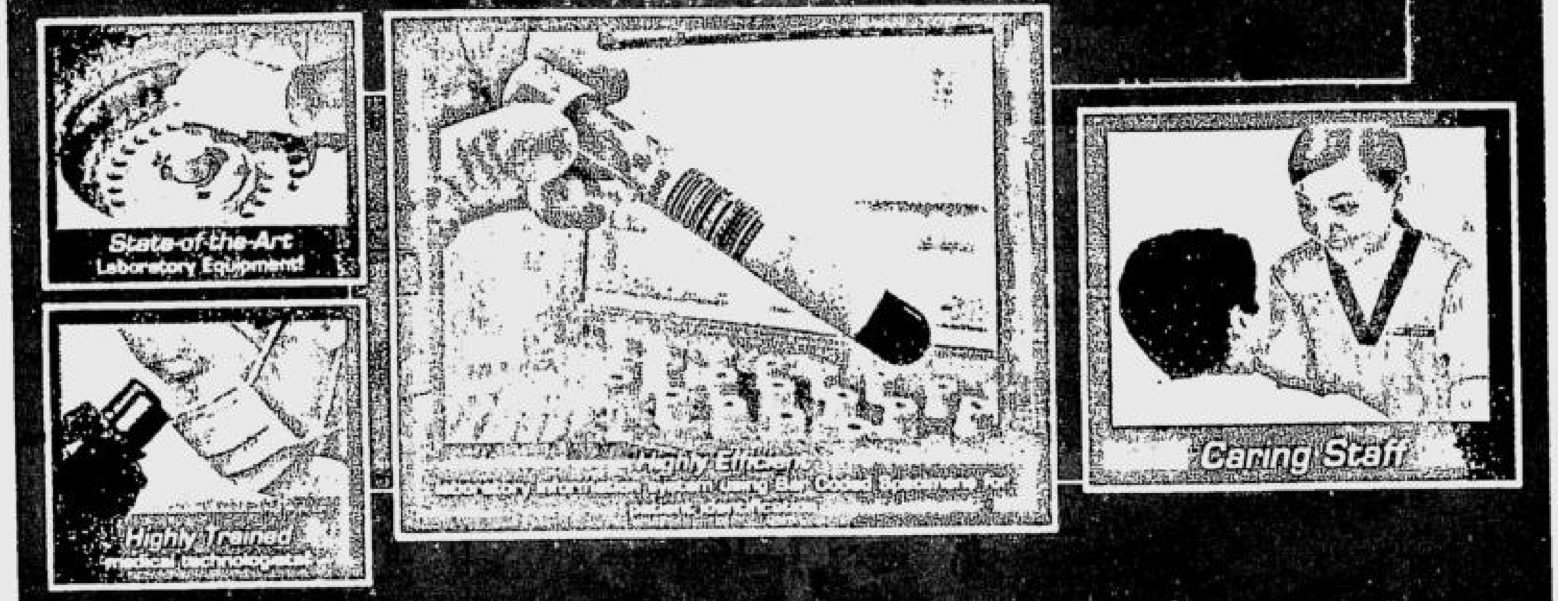
Finally, a medical laboratory that adheres to global standards!

The first and only in the COUNTRY!

These prestigious recognitions are your guarantee that we conduct tests using technologically advanced systems and instrumentation combined with the highest quality reagents. It is our mission to release timely and accurate results, because your health is our priority. So when it comes to having laboratory tests, get it from the name you can trust: Hi-Precision Diagnostics.

TÜV SUD ISO 9001
TÜV PRODUCT SERVICE ISO 15189

The first and only to be awarded with BOTH ISO 9001:2000 and ISO 15189:2003!



Congratulations from
Roche
Sysmex
gsk GlaxoSmithKline
LIFELINE
Dakila Trading Corporation

HI - PRECISION diagnostics
Quality Healthcare at Affordable Prices

MAIN BRANCH: (02)413.79.50 • T.M.KALAW: (02)526.23.29 • EAST AVE.: (02)436.10.97
CEBU MAIN BRANCH: (032)256.01.51 • CEBU CORPORATE BRANCH: (032)255.41.33
visit at: www.hi-precision.com.ph

Great Styles
Great Buys
As low as
P299.75
d.e.i
Style & Comfort within Reach
Call: 374-6671
DRAGONWORLD Enterprise, Inc.
DIRECT SELLING

**QC:** 2L Hollywood Square Bldg., 33 West Ave., QC • **Alabang:** Unit No. LS1-23, South Central Bldg. 1, Alabang-Zapote Rd, Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City Tel. 850-4768 • **Pampanga:** 221 May Bldg., Stall 1, Santo Entierro St., Angeles City, Pampanga Tel. (045) 888-1304

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

**Text us your feedback:**
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

# Potent images from women artists

**By Constantino C. Tejero**

"SUSO Lipad Suso" with "Sutyan," by Alma Quinto

BY NOW the discourse has long become academic: Why have there been no great women artists?

The contentious question is richly answered and flatly refuted by an art show of women empowerment ongoing in—of all places—Cubao.

The potency of women can be no more potently metaphorized than by Agnes Arellano's sculptural piece in blinding white, "Diana's Shield." Alluding to the shield of Achilles, the multilayered (literally and figuratively) piece in plaster of Paris is a cast of a breastplate (quite literally so) bristling with breasts (four pairs!) and, for genitalia, a cobra poised to strike.

In one astounding image, the artist has summoned the procreative and amazonic capabilities of women (never mind that the goddess of the hunt is extremely protective of her chastity, hence, childless).

The eight breasts also represent the eight women artists who have joined forces to form this year's edition of the annual exhibition "Walong Filipina," which has been integrated into Imelda Cajipe-Endaya's 18th solo exhibit "Conversations on Juan Luna"—until we now have an expanded show presented by Liongoren Gallery until April 20 at the Activity Center, L/1, Gateway Mall, Cubao, Quezon City.

The show is just as multilayered. While it is being held to commemorate the centennial of the Philippine feminist movement, it is a tribute to Paz Paterno (1867-1914), the first Filipina painter to be given art historical recognition. And it is dedicated to Pacita Abad, these artists' sorely missed colleague.

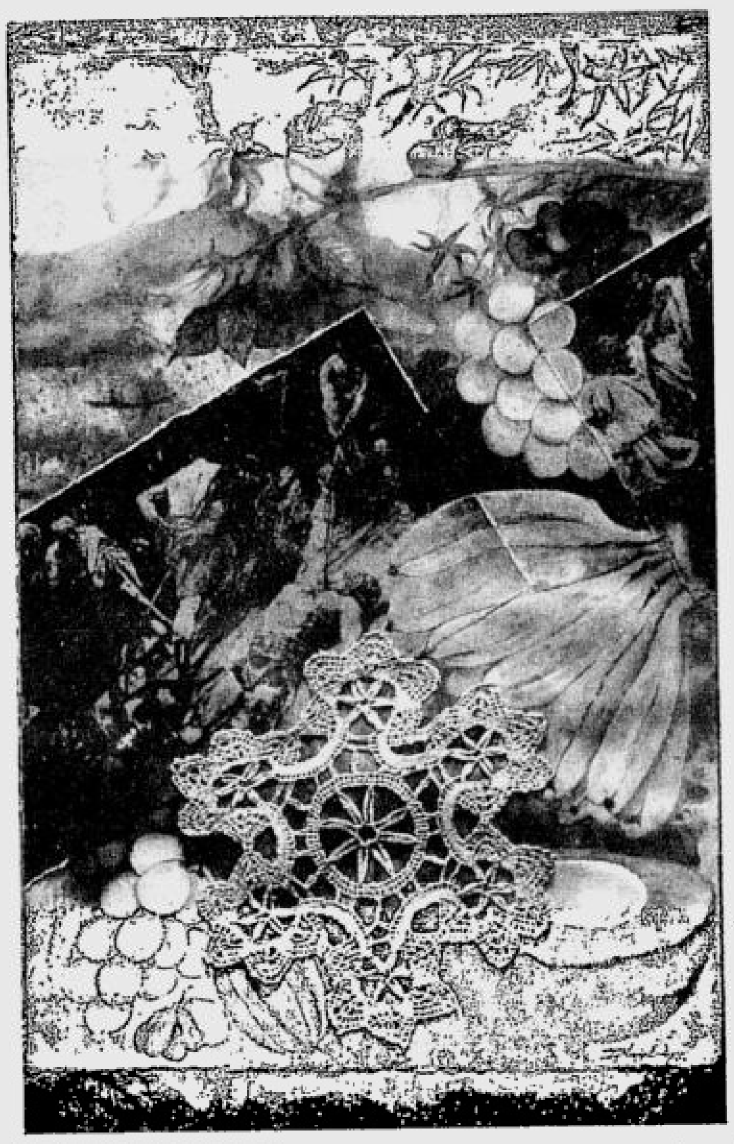
(In another respect, it is historical as this is the first art exhibit to be held in Gateway, the new hub of mall rats in Cubao.)

In her work, Endaya has taken Juan Luna as the male construct of greatness as artist, and his "Spoliarium" as an allegory of male impotence, brutishness, cruelty, indignity and failure. (Luna, by the way, is a whipping boy of feminists for his alleged murder of his wife and mother-in-law.)

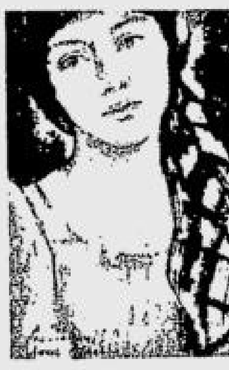
Using oil, acrylic and watercolor collaged with textile, silkscreen, crochet, aluminum foil, lace and embroidery on arches paper, Endaya works into her artworks the societal concerns and artistic traits, themes and subjects of her female colleagues, and juxtaposes them with photo serigraphs of Luna and his masterpiece. In effect, she's setting up a conversation between Luna and each of these personages.

"Juan Luna's 'Spoliarium' and Julie Lluch's 'Cactus Heart,'" for instance, depicts the tearful sculptress kneading a thorny, blood-red, heart-shaped mass of clay, while on the foreground is the Luna mural. A powerful image, it could be an unsentimental comment on domestic violence.

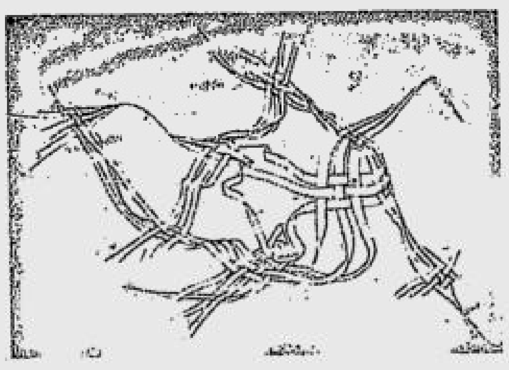
POTENT/ D2



"JUAN Luna and Paz Paterno," by Imelda Cajipe-Endaya



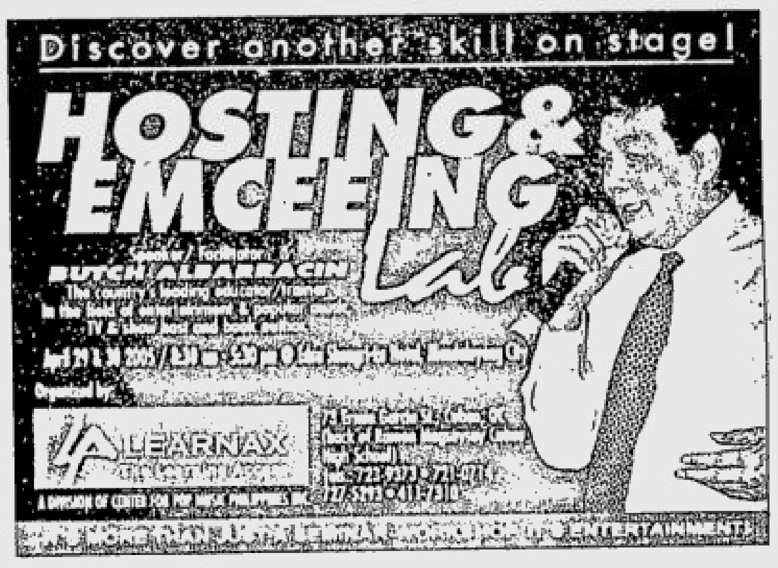
"A STUDY... Filipina," by Araceli Dans

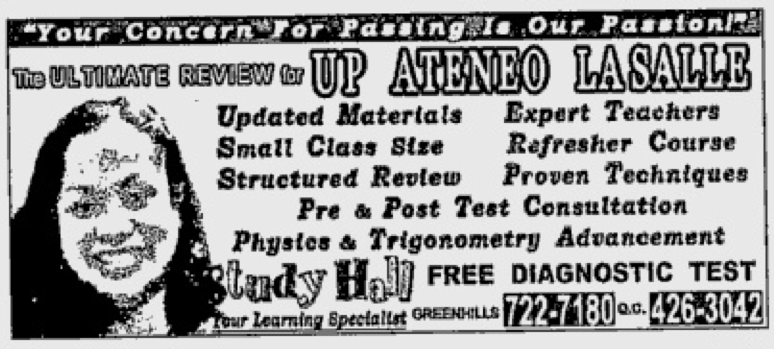


"PRIMAL Grace," by Ida Bugayong

WHAT'S ON AT ROBINSONS
Catch the country's most popular pop-rock act as she holds a special mini concert.
Kitchie Nadal
a world to discover
ROBINSONS Malls
www.robinsonsmalls.com
Kitchie Nadal
Not Ask The Drive

DIETS TO GO
the 1st to introduce
THE SOUTH BEACH DIET and
THERAPEUTIC CUSTOMIZED DIETS
via Meal Service in the Philippines
• Are you Diabetic, Hypertensive, or with Medical Concerns that need nutritional supervision?
• Do you want to eat healthy but don't know where to start?
• Do you simply want to lose weight the healthy way?
Call 843-4719 or 0917-8543429
and we'll PLAN, PREPARE, COOK and DELIVER
☐ Hassle-free ☐ Personalized
☐ Calorie-Counted ☐ Nutritionally Supervised
Tastefully Done MEALS


Discover another skill on stage!
HOSTING & EMCEEING Lab
Speaker/ Facilitator:
BUTCH ALBARRACIN
The country's leading educator/ trainer in the field of entertainment & popular...
Organized by:
LEARNAX
A DIVISION OF CENTER FOR POP MUSIC PHILIPPINES


"Your Concern For Passing Is Our Passion!"
The ULTIMATE REVIEW for UP ATENEO LASALLE
Updated Materials Expert Teachers
Small Class Size Refresher Course
Structured Review Proven Techniques
Pre & Post Test Consultation
Physics & Trigonometry Advancement
Study Hall FREE DIAGNOSTIC TEST
Your Learning Specialist GREENHILLS 722-7180 Q.C. 426-3042

Fast cash
for any need
or any occasion,
anytime, anywhere.
CASH 2 GO
The BEAT Installment Plan
Call 8-700-700 for more details
Metrobank

Congratulations to all AHEAD students who passed the 2004-2005 Ateneo, La Salle and U.P. college entrance tests.

Faith Christian School-Ralph Joseph A. Peñaojas ● Gospel Light Christian Academy, QC-Isaac D. de Leon ● Grace Christian HS-Allan Benson S. Chua, Janice L. Chua, Lizelle Barbara S. Chua, Christopher C. Kwok, Jann Christopher V. Ong, Kingsley U. Pua ● Holy Family School-Nicole Ranna M. Hao, Adela Anjelica C. Lazaro ● Holy Spirit Academy-Justine A. Millare ● Holy Spirit, Malolos-Melissa Ins E. Carreon ● Iloilo Central Commercial HS-Marc Gerald S. Go ● Immaculate Concepcion Academy-Camille Angelica C. Chua, Joy Cheryl P. Chua, Caroline Tricia C. Chung, Monica Camille C. Co, Rachel Gianne Carla D. Co, Karyl Alexei C. Coseto, Celine Melanie A. Dee, Dorothy Darryl O. How, Knsella T. Lao, Carla A. Ongsingco, Patricia S. See, Eda Mara L. Sy, Marjon Jan T. Sy, Blanche Joan T. Teh, Michelle Dominique R. Wong, Katherine Rose Lee P. Yam, Kimberly N. Yao, Andrea Samantha L. Yu, Jennifer C. Yu, Maria Dianne U. Yu ● Immaculate Conception Academy, Ilocos Norte-Manessa Gloria D. Ferrer ● Immaculate Conception Academy, Manila-Amelie Victoria P. Lising ● Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Parañaque-Beverly Ann B. Roña ● International Christian Academy-Rustico Paolo A. Marcelo ● Jose Abad Santos Memorial School-PWU-Ricardo Caleb R. Cosico ● Jubilee Christian Academy-Aaron Benedict O. Chua, Sabrina F. Co, Regine Ilona T. Cokieng, Wesley Gene M. Dionisio, Rachel Christine T. Dy, Dinno B. Go Cadenio, Loren Perez C. Lee, Sharlene Abigail Sehleng Y. Lim, Ralph Davis L. Sun, Christopher John T. Uy, Verlonn Ping B. Valencia, Abigail Joy A. Wang, Antonette Stephanie de G. Yu ● La Concordia College, Mia-Janie B. Lim ● La Immaculada Concepcion School, Pasig-Emmanuel J. Dela Cruz ● La Salle College, Antipolo-Eric Timothy D. Cadang, Patrick Albert F. Yabut ● La Salle Greenhills School-Jose Miguel J. Ambal, Thomas Philip C. Aquino, Jed Miles R. Bautista, Arlon de O. Carrera, Jose III R. Castro, John Edmar E. de Luna, Albert Leonard M. Dizon, Peter Paul Christopher E. Domingo, Kin James A. Gatmaitan, Karl de V. Javier, Patrick Chino B. Lacson, Ralph N. Rabanal, Laurence F. Roxas, Carlo B. Serrano, Ren Christopher A. Siccion, Juan Miguel de la P. Tuason, Romeo Jerome D. Valle, Ferdinand II M. Villafuerte, Dino Miguel F. Villarica ● Living Epistles Christian Academy-Angela Eliza C. Tuason ● Lord's Angels Montessori School, Bulacan-Milo Adrian N. Valentino ● Lorenzo Ruiz de Manila School, Cainta-Crissangelo dT. Pagal ● Lourdes School, Mandaluyong-Paul Andrew N. Abear, Mark James L. de Jesus, Benjamin Jose S. Estolas, Louie Dominic S. Magbanua, Christian Philip F. Reyes, Angelo Tristan P. Patricio ● Manila Science HS-Samantha Cathlyn B. Islata, Vincent Julius B. Matias ● Maria Montessori School, QC-Chariz Grace G. Camus ● Mater Dei Academy, Tagaytay City-Charlaine E. Latorre ● Mindanao State University/Iligan-Institute of Technology, Integrated Developmental School-Maurean Angelica T. Padilla, Winsome Chloe M. Rara ● Miriam College HS-Karen H. Batalla, Anna Katrina C. Casimiro, Nona Helena D. Palarca, Venisse Vance V. Valdez, Maria Irina T. Velasco ● Misamis Union HS-Aimee Lizbeth T. Chiong ● Montessori de San Juan Inc.-Amanda Mikaela M. Benipayo ● Montessori Integrated School of Antipolo-Isabella A. Magalona, Carylou Analie B. Talastasin ● Mother of Good Counsel Seminary, Pampanga-Rey Antonio N. Baguio ● Muntinlupa Science HS-Gio Ann S. Odevilas ● New Era University, Lipa-Elaiza Amelle M. Lagaya, Gil Patrick B. de Leon, Katrina C. Dy, Irene Cristina S. Manaog ● Newburgh Free Academy-Marie Francine Krizia B. Daya

Complete list available in www.aheadph.com

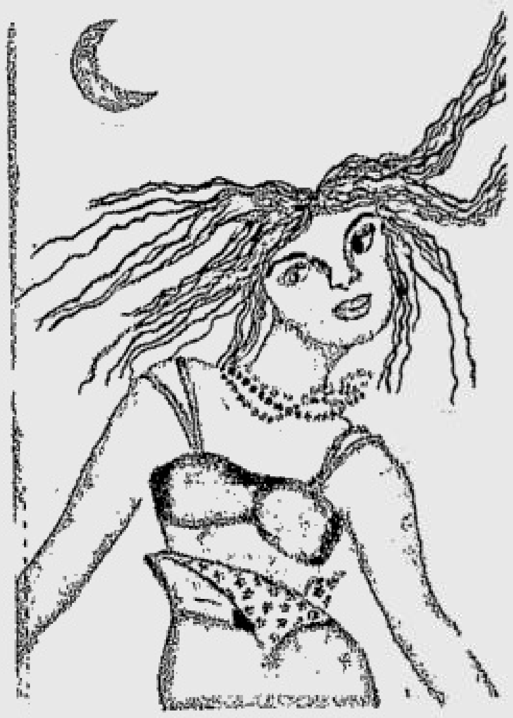
AHEAD TUTORIAL & REVIEW

Main: 2/F FBR Bldg. 317 Katipunan Ave. 426-0034 to 38
SM Megamall: 5/F Bldg. B (in front of Megatrade Hall 1)
Greenhills: 2/F Providence Bldg., 55 Annapolis St. 722-7298 / 722-8182
Robinsons Galleria: Park Avenue, Ortigas cell: 0917-[illegible]

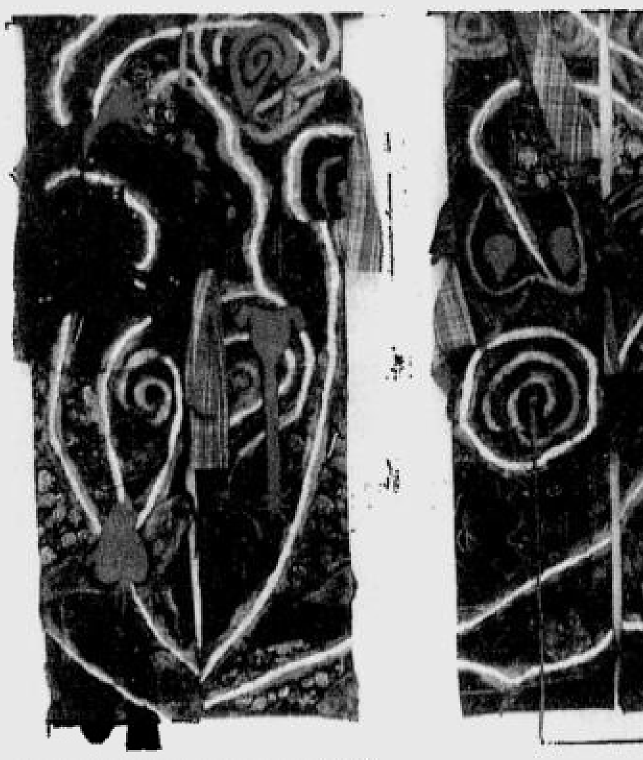
Enrollment going on!
www.aheadph.com

The Optra 1.6 L.
Startlingly within your means.
Class and style at just P599,000.
With several financing schemes that suit you.
Free periodic maintenance for 2 years or 30,000 km with parts and labor. Free 24/7 roadside assistance (includes towing, lost key and flat tire change). Plus a 3-year or 100,000 km warranty. With standard offers this good, expect the Chevrolet Optra to go very, very fast. Hurry, contact Chevrolet or GM Autoworld now at 1.800.1888.4646.
I am CHEVROLET

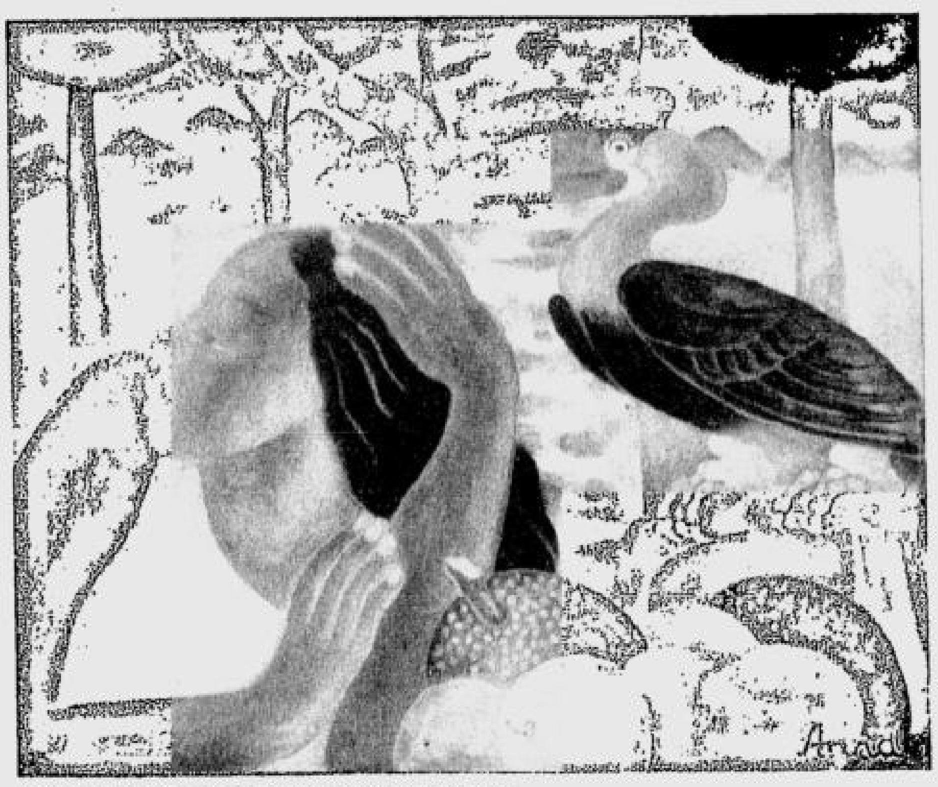
GM Autoworld MAKATI 867.8183 to 87 / 894.1976 • GM Autoworld QUEZON AVE. 374.1250 to 59 • GM Autoworld SHAW 535.4944 / 533.6375 / 533.1263 / 533.6349 • Chevrolet PASIG 672.1612 to 14 / 672.1486 • Chevrolet ALABANG 771.1206 to 09
Chevrolet NORTH EDSA 374.9992 to 97 / 374.9963 • Chevrolet PAMPANGA (045) 963.3333 / (045) 860.2000 • GM Autoworld CEBU (032) 234.0426 to 29 • Chevrolet DAVAO (082) 300.7777 / (082) 235.3811 • Chevrolet CAGAYAN DE ORO (08822) 722.999 / (088) 857.9999



"MOON Girl" 3, by Gilda Cordero-Fernando



"MAGKAPATID" 1-2, by Endaya



"NASAAN Na ang Mga Kalaw?" by Anna Fer

# Potent images from women artists

From page D1

## Distance and trauma

While others in Endaya's series are just as notable, the most remarkable, though, are the diptych "Magkapatid," giant assemblages of textile swatches collaged and sewn on canvas then painted with acrylic. Here the artist means to bond the sisterhood.

Lluch herself has four of her signature terra-cotta pieces in the show. The cactus heart is here, placed on a pedestal just below Endaya's collage.

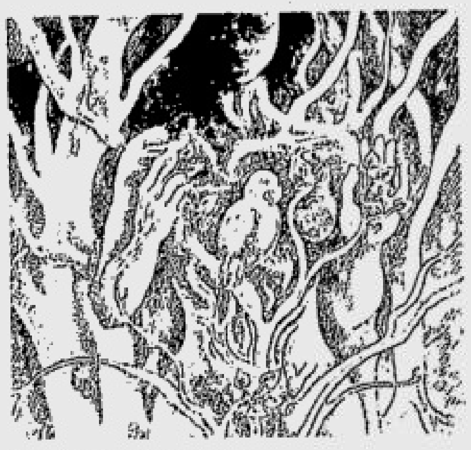
Two life-size, half-body sculptures, "Julie" (a self-portrait) and "Marcelo" (hubby of Gilda Cordero-Fernando), are placed face-to-face as if in a tête-à-tête. Between them are two beds of plaster embedded with crochet and thorny shards of a cactus-heart sculpture. The placement could be either for distancing effect or as something communal, to be shared.

Gilda Cordero-Fernando herself has seven pieces in watercolor: "Moon Girls" 1-4, "Fly Me to the Moon," "Fashionista," "Women's Problem"—very, very colorful.

They look like fashion-magazine illustrations or sketches from a, well, fashionista. The lines are lithe and languid, and the tone is at once summery (Day-Glo colors) and witchy (imagery of the phases of the moon).

Also very colorful but darker in tone (among the hues, the deepest purple and fuchsia, crimson, scarlet and magenta) are Alma Quinto's soft sculptures of textile and polyurethane.

"Suso" consists of 17 breast-shaped pieces, some with wings, scattered on the floor, while "Suso Lipad Suso" is three of these winged breasts suspended in midair, as if flying the coop.



"UNTITLED," by Fer

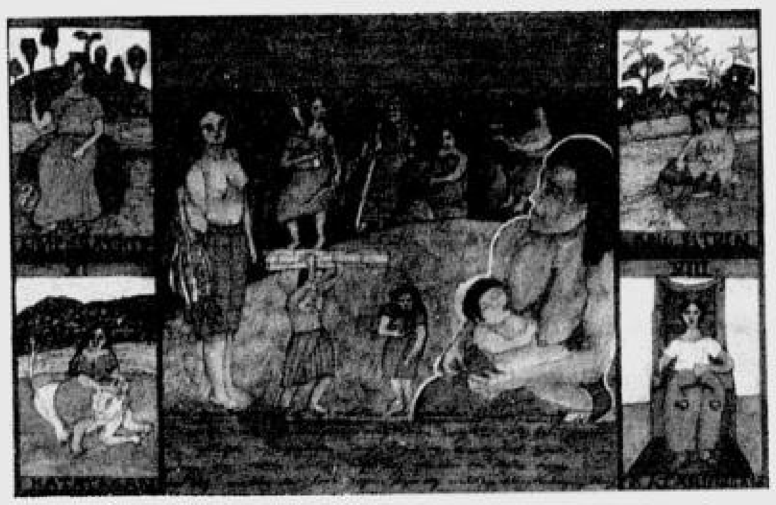
"Sutyan" is a mythical animal replete with breasts. It can be seen as a creature resembling a mermaid or a horse, depending on whether it is viewed upturned or downturned.

These are interactive pieces Quinto has created in collaboration with sexually abused girls, whom she teaches art. Their being made of recycled material is connected to the marginalization issue of these girls. In the process, she has turned their traumas into something positive.

## Sexuality and grace

Among the most traumatic imageries is Brenda Fajardo's "Paghigugma sa Tagsatagsa, Pagpalangga sa Pamilya," depicting a woman with six small children and a man drinking a bottle of liquor with a machete beside him. The title speaks of love, care and affection yet the image bristles with threat of domestic violence.

"SHARDS That Sharpen, Drown in a Deluge of Beauty" between "Julie" and "Marcelo," by Julie Lluch



"ANG ESPIRITU'T Pagkatao ay Malakas at Maganda," by Brenda Fajardo

In "Bulaklak sa Gitna ng Marahas na Gubat" and "Ang Espiritu't Pagkatao Ay Malakas at Maganda," Fajardo portrays a self-contained community of women and their children. In the former, the women assume a warrior stance in a harsh world. In the latter, they go on with their daily chore and toil in a world without men.

These paintings in mixed media are adorned on the borders with Fajardo's tarot motif, showing women as personifications of ideal traits such as courage, justice, truth.

Portraits of female grace are rendered by Ida Bugayong, Araceli Dans and Anna Fer.

Bugayong's "Primal Grace," a drawing of graceful lines in pencil on yellow paper showing a weave in the process of becoming or unraveling, is a perfect example of austere beauty.

Dans, known for her *calado* and *burdado* series, displays for the first time something we didn't know she was doing: portraiture. In "A Study... Filipina," two portraits in colored charcoal, she has drawn women with dove-like faces in native attire.

She's back in form, though, with "Dala ng Hangin," an autumnal image in watercolor of her famous *calado* and burnt-umber leaves washed with slate-green.

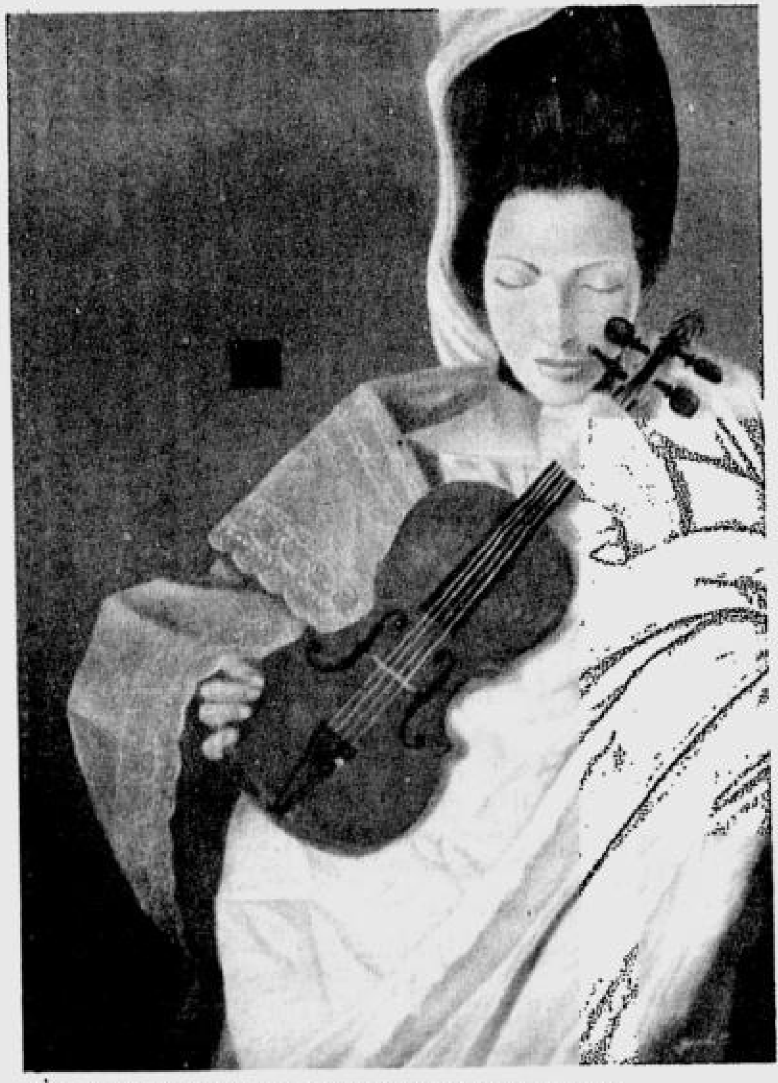
A luscious image is Fer's "Where Have All the Kalaws Gone?," in oil on canvas, of umber, sienna, yellow, orange, green and gray. This may be a tribute to ecology, but what washes over the viewer is its strong sexuality, in the Gauguinesque image of a woman's profile, the roundish fruits, the phallic hornbill.

It is often a weird beauty that we find in this artist's work, as also in her two untitled pieces in pen and ink, of vegetal forms, female nudes, a parrot, heart-shaped buds.

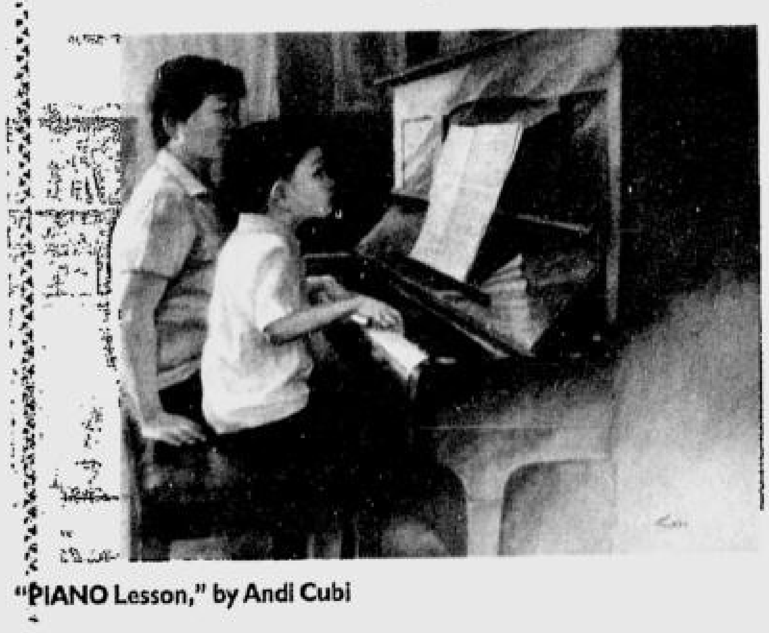
And it is weird beauty, indeed, that we find in most of the artworks in this show. In our mental laziness, we just label it the feminine mystique.

Which is, naturally, something that can't be explained—and that's where the real strength, power and potency lie.

---



"ANG NATITIRANG Abala ni Maria," by Jerry Morada



"PIANO Lesson," by Andi Cubi

# The sight of music

By Gino Dormiendo
*Contributor*

UNLIKE most group shows that look like a recipe for a wall-bound smorgasboard, "La Musique" strictly adheres to the prescribed theme of musical journeys.

And not only have the participating artists (all 23 of them) faithfully followed the curator's musical dictum of delineating the vital role of music in the artistic process, they have also successfully explored the theme around their own kind of image-making.

Now on its second year, "La Musique MMV"—following Galerie Joaquin's Jack Teotico's ars poetica, rather, musica, well in its expanded version—features 45 works from 23 artists, their individual oeuvre subsumed by the running thread of the collective musical experience.

The participating artists are mostly known for their figurative style, though abstraction is not entirely missing here, thanks to some of its loyal stalwarts who refuse to abide by the rule of the majority.

And though the image is dominated by musical instruments of all kinds, there are other equally important elements that form part of the milieu—or the bigger canvas, so to speak.

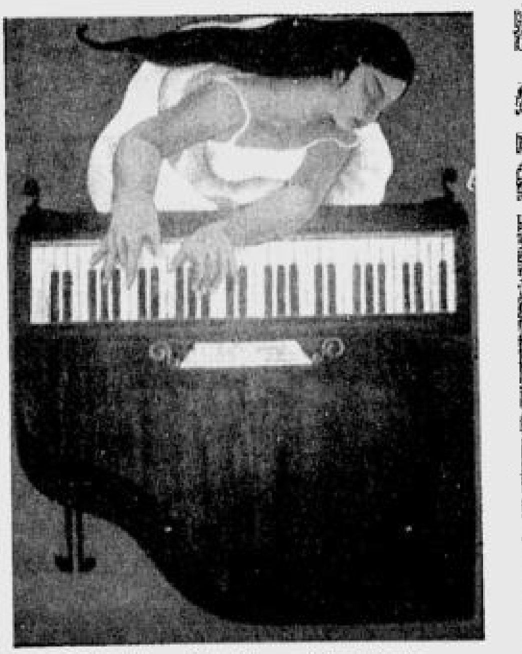
## Visually striking

Most visually striking among these pieces are Mario Parial's rendering of harlequins, which he configured in the most festive color and gold leaf well spilling into the frame, the subjects at play with various instruments. These works clearly evoke the essential gaiety and mirthful ambience of the subject, indeed, the artist's homage to music-makers.

Another artist with a highly distinctive expressionist imagery is Lydia Velasco, whose trademark female figure—lithe-bodied, full-lipped, gamin-faced—makes an appearance in a suite of three canvases. The artist's panoply of elements includes the subject playing various instruments, with parts of musical notations in the background, and clothed in revealing turn-of-the-century costuming.

Jerry Morada, who is also enamored with the same milieu as Velasco, has a large 4 ft. x 8 ft. painting, "The Secret of Happiness: A Little Love, a Little Music," which has his usual gallery of characters in wildly surreal poses.

Morada is an artist with an innate sense of drama that makes for biting commentary, his fetish for fin-de-siecle costuming merging with his aggressive brandishing of feminist posturing.



"GRAND Piano," by Bayani Ray Acala

Another artist worth more than the perfunctory look is Bernard Vista, whose portraits of folk musicians—playing the *banduria*, guitar and the flute—explore the squat and distorted figure that recalls the cubist influence. Vista is an artist to watch, given his solid sense of figuration.

Similarly, Edwin Tres Reyes' suite of female musicians, seductive in their pose, with props of everyday objects surrounding the poker-faced subjects, is proof of the artist's facility with the human figure.

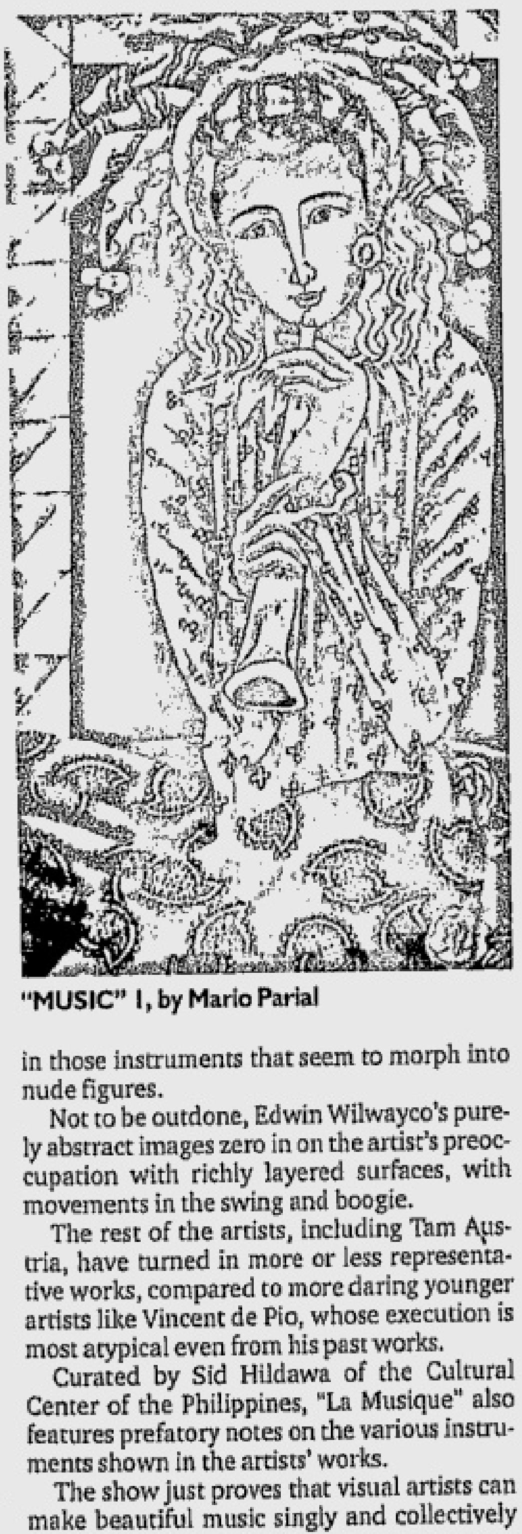
Eilleen Escueta pulls off a surprise here with her finely delineated trio of violinists, including a standing female nude dramatically lit, her silhouette reflected against the light.

## Hardline realist

Omi Reyes, who had a solo show last year delving into the power of music as a transforming agent, has a couple of works, echoing the same theme in his last show.

Andi Cubi, a hardline realist, has two de rigueur watercolor works, one a cellist and the other a piano teacher with her ward. Ditto with Relli Liwag, a young artist whose two works bear some promise.

Lito Gemora's acrylic paintings capture the transitory shadows and chiaroscuro lurking in those instruments that seem to morph into nude figures.



"MUSIC" 1, by Mario Parial

Not to be outdone, Edwin Wilwayco's purely abstract images zero in on the artist's preoccupation with richly layered surfaces, with movements in the swing and boogie.

The rest of the artists, including Tam Austria, have turned in more or less representative works, compared to more daring younger artists like Vincent de Pio, whose execution is most atypical even from his past works.

Curated by Sid Hildawa of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, "La Musique" also features prefatory notes on the various instruments shown in the artists' works.

The show just proves that visual artists can make beautiful music singly and collectively with their usual set of instruments.

*Galerie Joaquin is located at the 2/F, 371 P. Guevara St. cor. Montessori Lane, Addition Hills, San Juan, Metro Manila. Call 7239253.*

*E-mail author at gdormiendo@yahoo.com*

# Azcona blows away Catanduanes

**By Pablo A. Tariman**
*Contributor*

OLIVER Salonga

BARITONE Noel Azcona JIM GUAIO PUNZALAN

BOTH island musicians and plain music lovers, as well as curious young ones, flocked to the Catanduanes Capitol lobby recently to listen to their first full recital by a baritone.

It was the last leg in the tour of baritone Noel Azcona, with pianist Najib Ismail. The standing ovation he received was reminiscent of the euphoria created by Romanian violinist Alexandru Tomescu in the same venue five years ago.

The enthusiastic reception was triggered particularly by the world premiere of the Lucio San Pedro arrangement of the song "Islang Catanduangan," written by local composer Alfredo de la Rosa.

"I could see the great joy on the faces of the audience. And, toward the end, I noticed the entire audience singing with me," said Azcona, who performed with the University of Santo Tomas Singers for a few days at the parish church.

His special Catanduanes engagement was made possible by the tourism office of Gov. Leandro Verceles Jr.

A week earlier, the baritone got the same reception at the Science City of Muñoz in Nueva Ecija where he was billed with the city choir and band.

"That baritone is a living national treasure," gushed Muñoz Mayor Nestor Alvarez who led the standing ovation.

## Higher cash prize

Abroad, Filipino artists made news during the week. In Florida, Oliver Salonga, two-time winner of the National Music Competition for Young Artists (Namcya), won in another piano competition outside his school. Jury members were so moved they dipped into their pockets to increase the cash prize of $400 to more than $1,200.

On his first year in Florida, Salonga topped his first school concerto competition. Last year, he won over all instrumentalists and toured with the school orchestra as part of his prize.

On the same day Azcona was wowing Catanduanes, Cecile Licad was astounding her own audience in the United States with her performance of Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 3, accompanied by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra under JoAnn Faletta who conducted her Chopin No. 2 in February this year.

Falletta changed the program to preface it with the "Evening Prayer" from Humperdinck's opera, "Hansel and Gretel," in memory of Pope John Paul II who passed away six hours before the concert.

Critic Herman Trotter noted that Licad was exceptionally communicative in the concerto's more introspective moments and commended her "clean, bright tone and sensitive articulation of the lyrical lines."

"Licad's technique was effortlessly secure," he said, "but she didn't try to overpower the work. Rather, she immersed herself in its progress, putting musical values ahead of flamboyant bravura. There was room enough for that in the stormy cadenza she unleashed, to the delight of the audience."

## Here and there

Inna Montesclaros, 12, first prize winner in three competitions (Rosario Picazo, Namcya and young artist competitions organized by Miriam College), will open the 4th Pasig Summer Music Festival at the Pasig Museum 5 p.m., Sunday, April 24. She will open the program with Bach's Prelude and Fugue in B flat BWV 866, Chopin's Nocturne in B Flat Op. 9, No. 1 and will end with Mozart's Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in D Major KV 466 with pianist Cecile Roxas as collaborating artist.

One of the year's most exciting concerts should be that of pianist Salonga and cellist Victor Michael Coo teaming up with the Manila Philharmonic under Rodel Colmenar on Sunday, June 12 at the Phil-Amlife Theater. It is an evening of piano and cello concertos, opening with Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 2 and closing with Dvorak's cello concerto.

Salonga will also give a solo recital on May 28 at the Baguio Country Club Ballroom for the benefit of the special projects of the National Delphic Council under Divina A. Bautista. Call 0918-7376901 or 9017156.

Film scorer Nonong Buencamino will invade Cannes Film Festival with three of the films he recently scored showing at the World Cinema special screening of Cesar Montano's "Panaghoy Sa Suba," Marilou Diaz-Abaya's "Bagong Buwan" and Chito Roño's "Dekada '70."

The Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO) closed its current season with a whimper, moving its concert to St. Scholastica's St. Cecilia's Hall, from the Cultural Center of the Philippines' main theater, because of the tightened security during the recent conference of the Inter Parliamentarian Union.

At St. Cecilia's, there were more people on stage than in the audience. Many people skipped the concert after the change of venue. Even more bizarre, one conductor did the overture and the main performance of contemporary music was handled by the new music director.

Incidentally, the new PPO resident conductor got an unsatisfactory rating from 95 percent of the members during a recent evaluation.

PIANIST Najib Ismail

JIM GUAIO PUNZALAN

The baritone's performance was as powerful as some of the many storms that hit the island province

---

# A recitalist . . .

From page D4

ers for this brief notice on my daughter Hiyas. She will give her graduation recital on May 10 at the Hellman Hall of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music where she is enrolled for a master's degree in piano performance under the eminent pedagogue Mack McRay.

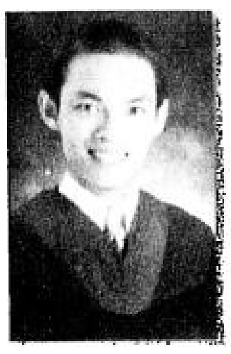
Her program consists of Beethoven's Sonata in C Minor, Op. 11; Debussy's Sonata in G minor for violin and piano, with Sabina Rhee-Nakajima, violinist; and Schumann's Symphonic Etudes, Op. 13. She graduates on May 20.

My family wishes to extend our heartfelt thanks to all her benefactors, both institutional as well as individual, whose full support enabled her to finish her bachelor and masteral degrees in piano performance at the said school.

God willing, Hiyas will pursue her Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) studies starting next school year, probably at the University of Minnesota, which has offered her a scholarship and a teaching assistantship, as well as the Centennial Piano Performance Graduate Fellowship, a $3,000 cash award that is rarely given, in recognition of a sterling audition performance.

While still awaiting offers from other schools, Hiyas is keeping an eye on this generous award. Should she accept it, she will have Lydia Artimyw, Chair of the Piano Department, as her teacher. Artimyw is a Leventritt and Leeds winner and studied under Gary Graffman.

---



John Peter Andrew Esguerra de la Cruz graduated **MAGNA CUM LAUDE** from the University of Santo Tomas, College of Fine Arts, major in Advertising. He is the son of Roger and Cynthia Esguerra de la Cruz of Ayala Alabang.

---

HANDYCAM
Cyber-shot

Sony Triple Treats! plus

3 YEAR WARRANTY SONY

Be worry-free for 3 years with our extended warranty special!
Promo is from April 1, 2005 to June 30, 2005
See posters and flyers for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No:0369 Series of 2005

Enjoy shopping from our wide range of accessories with your Handycam Gift Check worth as much as P5,000!
Promo is from April 1, 2005 to June 30, 2005.
See flyers for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No:0409 Series of 2005

10 YEAR WARRANTY SONY
5 YEAR WARRANTY SONY

Security with Memory Stick Warranty. Get 5 or 10 year warranty for every purchase of Sony Memory Stick

Check out our latest Cyber-shot line-up that would perfectly fit your lifestyle and enjoy accessory shopping with our Cyber-shot gift check promo!
Promo is from April 11, 2005 to June 30, 2005.
See flyers for details.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No:1813 Series of 2005

like.no.other™

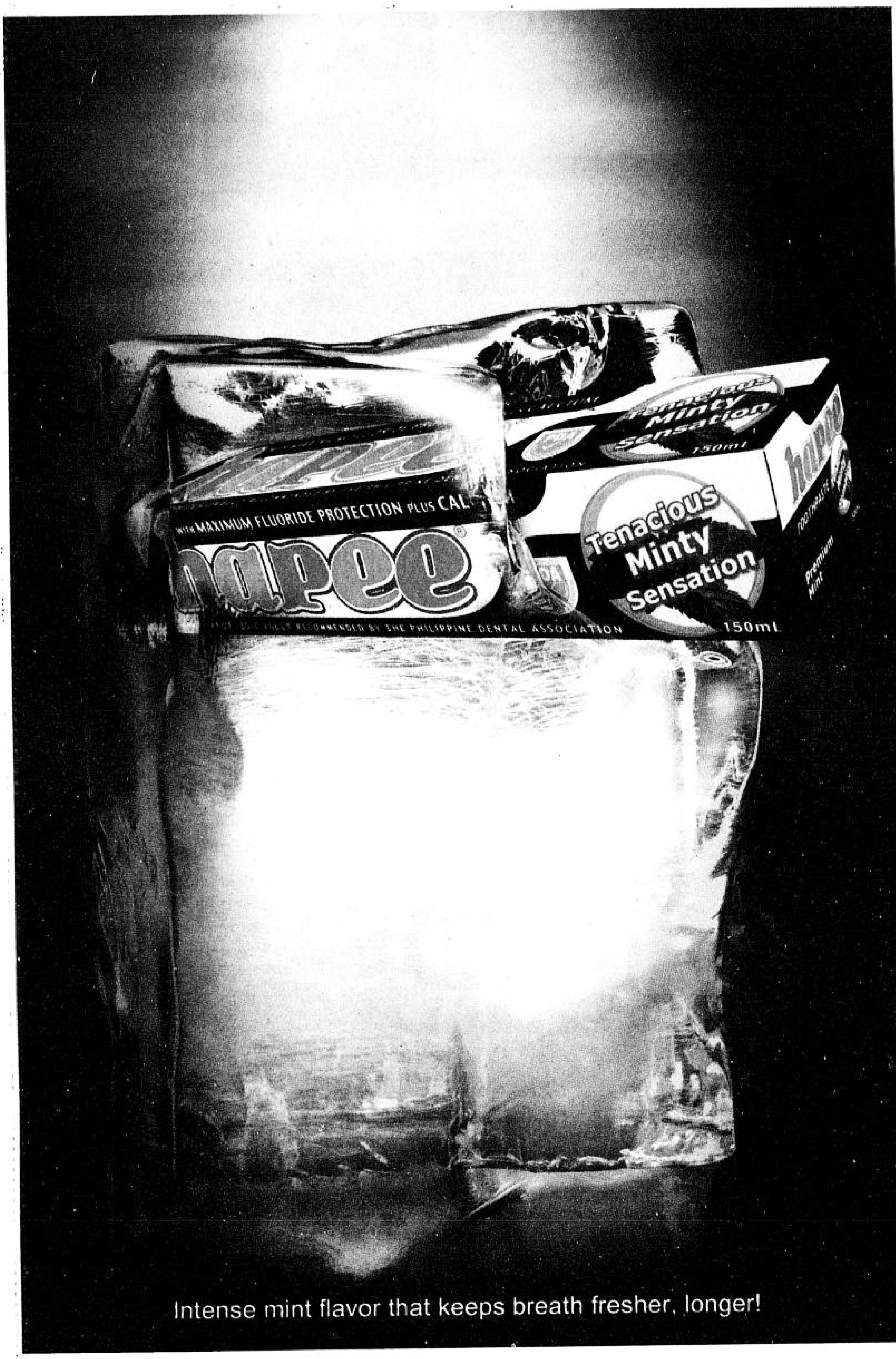
Available in all authorized Sony Dealers nationwide.

CCC Sony Customer Contact Center:
(02) 878-7600
info.sph@ap.sony.com

SONY

www.sony.com.ph

Cyber-shot and Handycam are exclusively distributed by Sony Philippines Inc.: 26th Flr. Tower 1, 6766 The Enterprise Center, Ayala Avenue cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City 1226 PHILIPPINES
SONY
HANDYCAM ACCESSORY Gift - Check
1000
3000
5000
CYBER-SHOT ACCESSORY Gift - Check
1,000
3,000
10,000
Cyber-shot



hapee
WITH MAXIMUM FLUORIDE PROTECTION PLUS CAL
Tenacious Minty Sensation
RECOMMENDED BY THE PHILIPPINE DENTAL ASSOCIATION
150ml
Premium Mint
Intense mint flavor that keeps breath fresher, longer!

# A recitalist with much promise

**By Antonio C. Hila**
*Contributor*

AT 22 years of age, Clement Acevedo, an incoming senior at the U.P. College of Music taking up a bachelor's degree in piano performance, has shown much promise as a concert pianist.

Having heard him at the recently concluded NAMCYA competition (Category C) last year where I sat in the board of jurors that unanimously awarded him the first prize, it certainly was again a pleasure to watch his recital, the second of the required three recitals for graduation, held at the UP Abelardo Hall recently.

His program consisted of works of Scarlatti, Mozart, Scriabin, Schumann, Prokofief and Filipino composer Josefino "Chino" Toledo.

Indeed, it was never too late for him to harness his talent, having started playing the piano when he was already 15 years old, or just seven years ago. His winning the coveted NAMCYA grand prize was itself a feat, considering that the said prize was last awarded in 1985.

He also showed exemplary ability at the Amati Music Festival in New York in 2003 where he bagged the Amati award, the highest recognition given to a participant. Prof. Jovianney Emmanuel Cruz, his mentor, informed the audience about this through his welcome remarks at the recital.

He further said that the featured recitalist had studied with him only for the last two years. Acevedo's previous teachers were Felicitas Roldan in Capiz City, where he hails from, and Prof. Augusto Espino at the U.P. College of Music.

Sturdy and articulate fingers, clear understanding of the works he plays, and stamina are commendable pluses that Acevedo has mustered thus far. In time, his tones will further develop to the full.

His fingers are already formidable and his temper quite sensitive. He's got the pulse, so to speak; his rhythmic drive is biting. His palette is rich from where he draws stark colorings. His dynamics are broad and are starkly contrasted.

Toledo's piece, which was also NAMCYA's contest piece called "aL-TerEd IMagEs," oozed with awful dispatch in Acevedo's hands. So did Debussy's "Four Pieces, Op.4," which reeled off with symphonic might.

Acevedo's fingers endured the demands, the biting bravura of the last section, "Suggestion diabolique," which he handsomely essayed in perpetual motion. In the Scarlatti and Mozart sonatas, the pianist's lines sung with clarity.

CLEMENT Acevedo

At 22, Clement Acevedo's fingers are already formidable, and his temper quite sensitive. He's got the pulse, so to speak

He rendered Schumann's A Minor Concerto, Op. 54 with solid dispatch. From the brief introduction of the first movement to the discursive coda of the last movement, Acevedo fully engaged the audience in rapturous attention. The cadenza in the first movement sounded with much poetic charm. The dialogue between him (first piano) and the second piano, played by Geraldine Gonzales, was kept with gracious charm, truly making the movement a fine intermezzo to listen to.

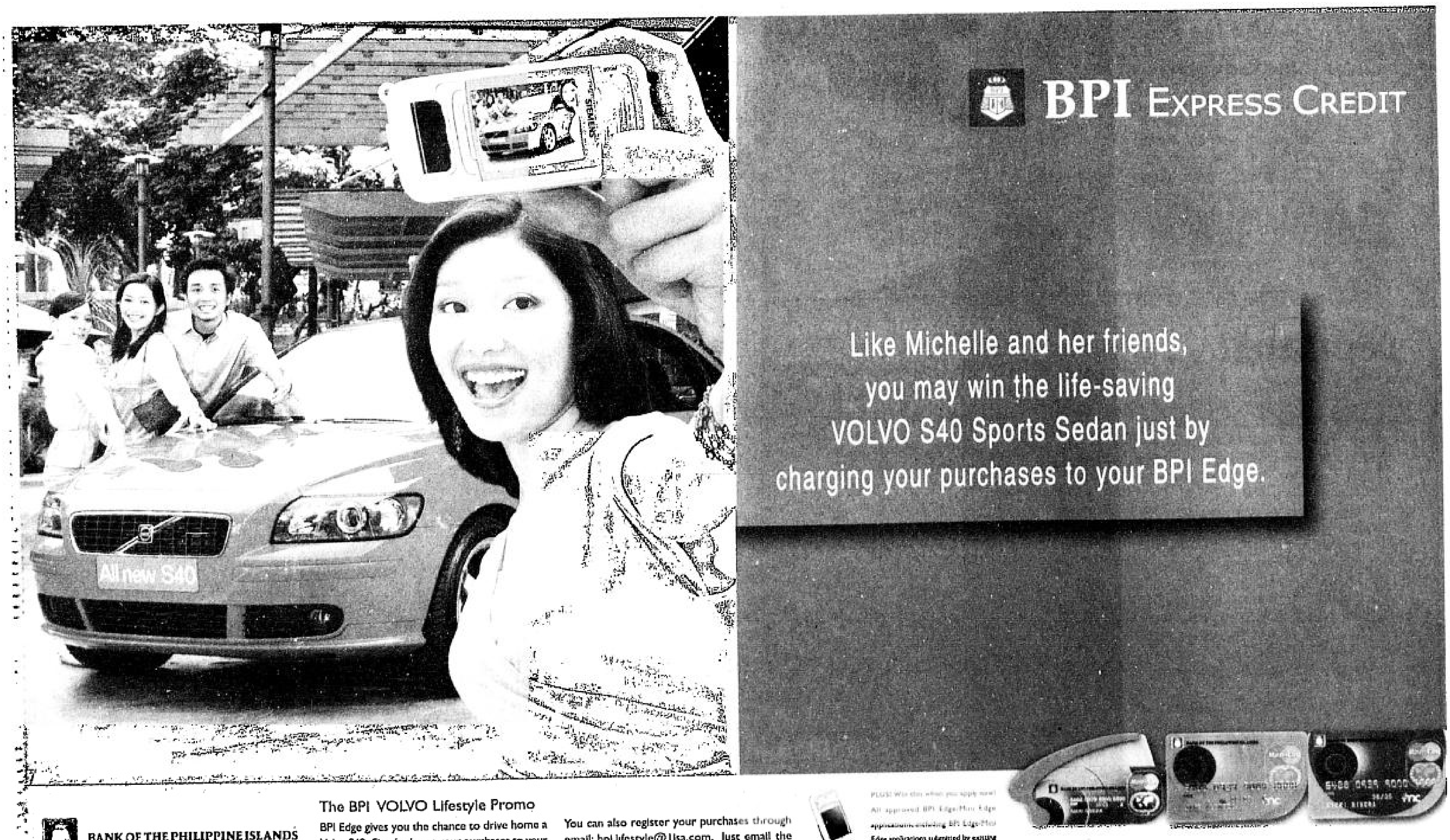
Virtuosity towered in the last movement as he struck the buoyant opening theme and the succeeding dynamic development on to the long coda with magnificent splendor.

He is very much ready for further honing abroad. We wish him all the luck!

## Update on Hiyas

I beg the indulgence of my read-

A RECITALIST/ D3



BPI Express Credit

Like Michelle and her friends, you may win the life-saving VOLVO S40 Sports Sedan just by charging your purchases to your BPI Edge.

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership

VOLVO
for life

SIEMENS

The BPI VOLVO Lifestyle Promo

BPI Edge gives you the chance to drive home a Volvo S40. Simply charge your purchases to your BPI Edge or Mini Edge. Every ₱500 purchase gives you one raffle entry. To join, register your purchases by calling the promo hotline: 683-0008 for Metro Manila callers; 1-800-10-683-0008 for callers outside Metro Manila.

You can also register your purchases through email: bpi.lifestyle@1lsa.com. Just email the following purchase information as they appear in your charge slip: (1) 16-digit BPI Express Credit Card number (2) transaction amount, including centavos (3) transaction date: mm/dd/yy (4) transaction time: hh/mm.

Promo period: November 15, 2004-April 30, 2005. See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 3121, Series of 2004

PLUS! Win this when you apply now! All approved BPI Edge/Mini Edge applications, including BPI Edge/Mini Edge applications submitted by existing active BPI cardholders, from March 15 to May 15, 2005 will get a chance to win 1 of 10 Siemens SF65 mobile phones with a 1.3 megapixel SXGA camera!

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0598, Series of 2005

Approved applications during the promo period will also earn raffle entries. For application and inquiries, call BPI Express Phone 89-100, visit any BPI or BPI Family Bank branch or Express Banking Center or log on to www.bpiexpressonline.com.

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2005

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

IFESTYLE

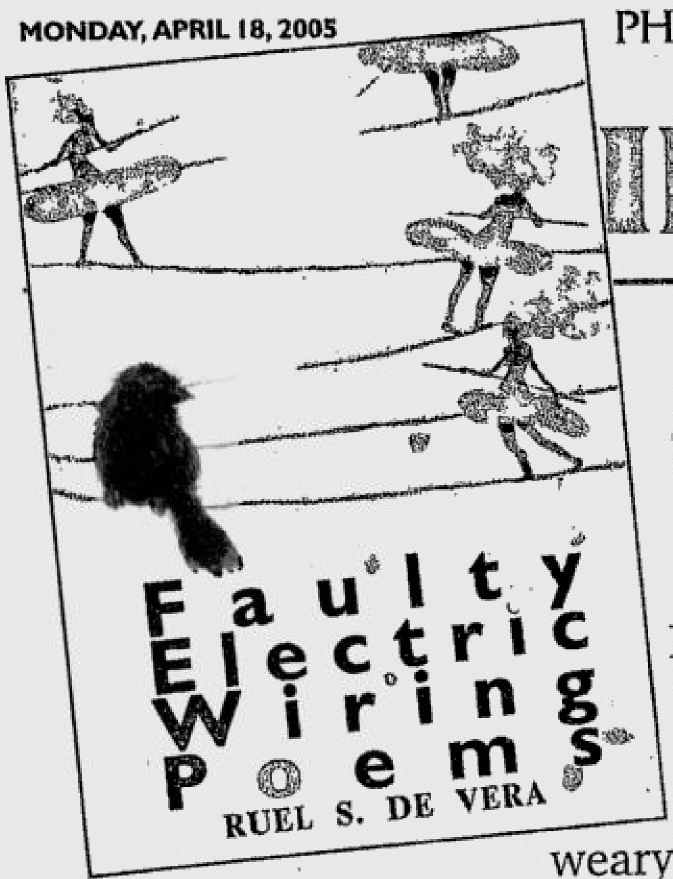
F1

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

**Text us your feedback:**
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

galileo SURGICENTER
Cataract & Glaucoma Center
PRESERVE · IMPROVE · RESTORE
Value for Vision
721-7135 or 721-6412

# Odes to disenchantment



"Faulty Electric Wiring Poems"
*By Ruel S. De Vera*
*Ateneo de Manila University, 75 pages*

**By Ophelia A.Dimalanta**
*Contributor*

FAULTY Electric Wiring Poems" is rife with a sense of dislocation, disenchantment, skepticism.

But despite the endless seeking, the "suffering from jetlags between past lives: getting time zones all mixed up," the scrounging around for excuses for the merest powderburns and conflagrations, Ruel de Vera's poetry is always expressive of the kind of world-weary prescience of the mature in insight and visionings.

Still, young poetry it is, showing the capacity of the young to be there and not there when unlikely encounters strike, but thankfully spared of the ranting, frivolous up-frontness and on-the-wing impetuosities and arrogance of the young.

"We deceive in truth/ we need nothing/ but the need to believe" ("Super"). And after a dark night, "sunlight shakes you awake/ you are all eyes and ears now/ smilingly rising to the morning/"... "whisper a prayer to the Virgin/ ready to be innocent all over again" ("Kamikaze Alchemy").

All is there: almost cosmic alienation in a foreign place, "Heathrow disgorging one/ like some leftover/ from a condemned man's final meal," a somber scene of a foggy city and snow falling too soon in the wake of fall, sensuality (from a poem after Rosanna Roces): "Her body fills every available inch/ like she was the only thing/ that was ever on the air."

Desire diffused, deconstructed, damaged... "where there is no quick/ redemption from/ this bottom-dwelling/ conspiracy." Or poignantly registers in "you lost me/ only because/ you wanted to."

Schmaltzy? Perhaps so, but tugged back to form in the "nightmare of harpoons in linen." Poetry/art is both stillness and movement. "It is either everything is moving/ or nothing is... it is either nothing/ can move us/ or everything already has" ("Movement"). One flowing into the other, one imagined into the other.

All there. All the faces, places, needs, wrenched attachments, hurts, actual and imagined, guilt-ridden or otherwise, ready to spring forth in torrents but for the timely curb through art's restraining hand.

## Perennial problem

The perennial problem of poetry is to strike the right balance between monastic discipline and unbridled lyricism or emotionalism—to sail with the current while at the same time maintaining a firm stance through a sense of method and control.

And this poet has this, achieved through irony, paradoxes, tension, never-outdated formalistic persuasions which could provide the right metaphorical lift or check.

"Doomed to search/ for clothes branded xl/ precisely because they do not fit us..." "Craft tames even the most secret universes ready to burst free."

De Vera's lines have the wire-sculpture economy of much Eastern European poetry, with all their imaginative weight perfectly preserved.

These are inward journeys, yearnings, mergings of the self with any one or any thing, expressed quite adeptly in taut cadences that drink at moments in time.

De Vera writes poetry in between journalism and college teaching. His is welcome poetry at a time when it is so easy to swear by novelty for its own sake, the frenzied unguarded yawp on one hand and the stiff journalese passed off as poetry on the other hand, in an effort to capture the swing and zing of the "new" and the "in" in these terribly muddled times.

Finally, the distinction should be made not between young/new poetry and old/traditional poetry but between non-art and art.

Come to think of it, in the long run, it is not the strict adherence to hard-and-fast rules that matters, but the undefinable effect of sheer poetic utterance (a gift of more than language) to the truly trained reader.

And in the best sense, De Vera's poetry matters. Indeed so.

> Ruel De Vera's poetry is always expressive of the kind of world-weary prescience of the mature in insight

**Send resumés instantly**

VISIT US AT
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB Market

**Join The Ranks Of Our Successful Students!**
General Eduardo Ermita • Amy Perez • Bernadette Sembrano • Dr. Nilo Rosas • Fr. Jerry Orbos • Atty. Oscar Orbos • Rufa Mae Quinto • Judge Juan Nabong • Mayor Vilma Santos • Charlene Gonzales • Aiza Seguerra • Side A Band • Bb Pilipinas Winners • Jo Canonizado, Ritchie Ocampo, Maria Isabel Lopez, etc. • Congresswoman Bakunawa

Schedules: MW, TTH, FRI, SAT, SUN / Morning, Afternoon, Evening

- Speech Dynamics
- Fluency & Mastery of English
- Power Talking Skills
- English for Foreigners
- Personality in Enhancement
- Rapid Reading & Comprehension

**KIDDIE ACADEMY**
(3 TO 12 yrs. old)
Speech Arts, Theater Arts, English Fluency, Grammar, Reading & Comprehension, Character Bldg., Personality Dev

- Glamour Ride or Finishing Course
- IELTS • TSE • TOEFL
- Private Tutoring • All Courses
- Corporate Training

WCT Wilma Cruz-Tapalla
ACADEME OF SPEECH AND PERSONALITY
SINCE 1967
www.wctacademe.com

| LEGARDA, SAMPALOC<br>2600 Rizal Hall, Arellano University | GREENHILLS<br>55 Annapolis | ORTIGAS CENTER<br>Meralco Ave. |
|---|---|---|
| 736-7656<br>736-7657<br>736-7644 | 722-7955<br>723-4118<br>726-8768 | 638-8034<br>or<br>736-7657 |

Men are VAIN too
GX
GANG XIAN
Herbal Slimming Tea for Men
with 6 natural dietary herbs
from the makers of Kankunis
Kankunis®
with 3 wonder herbs
• Senna • Shiu San Tea • Malvae •
Kankunis
Available in 30 teabags for P398.00 only
Available in 20 teabags for P210.00 only

*Drink your way to a slimmer you!*

Most of us live a sedentary life. This work - eat - sleep - work routine without physical activities such as exercise is not a choice that we make but a situation created by the fast-paced lifestyle we all have. A typical yuppie's world revolves around building up a good portfolio for better career opportunities in the future. Thus, putting his/her health conditions at the backseat.

But as time goes by, health becomes an issue that starts with an annoying weight gain problem. This is true especially for Filipinos because we are extremely vain and particular with having perfect curves at the right places. It is typical to get comments or compliments on one's figure as a greeting. Nowadays, men are becoming more conscious about their bodies. Belly bulges and unsightly flabs are not macho anymore like before. As a matter of fact there have been studies showing that men are willing to follow a work-out plan or drink slimming pills for leaner bodies. But as some slimming pills have harmful side effects while gym work-outs eat much of one's precious time and money as well, men are left with no other option than to go under the knife. But why resort to a costly, professionally altered body when slimming down can become a lifestyle in itself?

Drinking tea, specifically green tea is proven helpful in ridding the body of unwanted fats and bad cholesterol. Experts believe that green tea, though categorized as food in the market, gives healthful benefits to men.

Gang Xian Herbal Tea for Men, a new product from the makers of Kankunis, a well-established slimming tea for women, is now out in the market. It contains three types of Camellia sinensis, a known slimming ingredient in the market today. With the combined strength of Camellia sinensis of Wulong tea, Kung ting tea and To tea, one is assured of great results in no time.

Aside from helping one get a better shape, Gang Xian's ingredients have beneficial health benefits to men. Wulong tea acts as an anti-ageing agent, blood pressure stabilizer and immune system booster. It also improves the digestive system and prevents heart diseases. Kung Ting tea has anti-oxidant properties that help fight against cancer. It is also an effective agent that lowers cholesterol level, restrains the growth of bacteria and reduces the risk of blood vessel blocking and heart attacks. While To tea is known to reduce the cholesterol levels in the body.

The concoction also contains Cassia obtusifolia which contain emodin, a form of laxative making it a good remedy for chronic constipation. The ingredient also lowers the plasma cholesterol, prevents formation of atherosclerotic plaque in the arterial wall and lowers the blood pressure level. Folium Nelumbinis is known to be responsible for dispersing excess heat and increased body energy. The Chrysanthemum leaves contain a longer anti-hypertensive effect. Its traditional therapeutic and weight maintenance. This tea is also for metrosexuals, the new breed of men in the Philippines who are very conscious of their bodies.

**Gang Xian** does not need any prescription because it is made of natural ingredients. It is available in cans of 30 teabags at **P398.00**. There are also trial packs of 5s at **P86.00**.

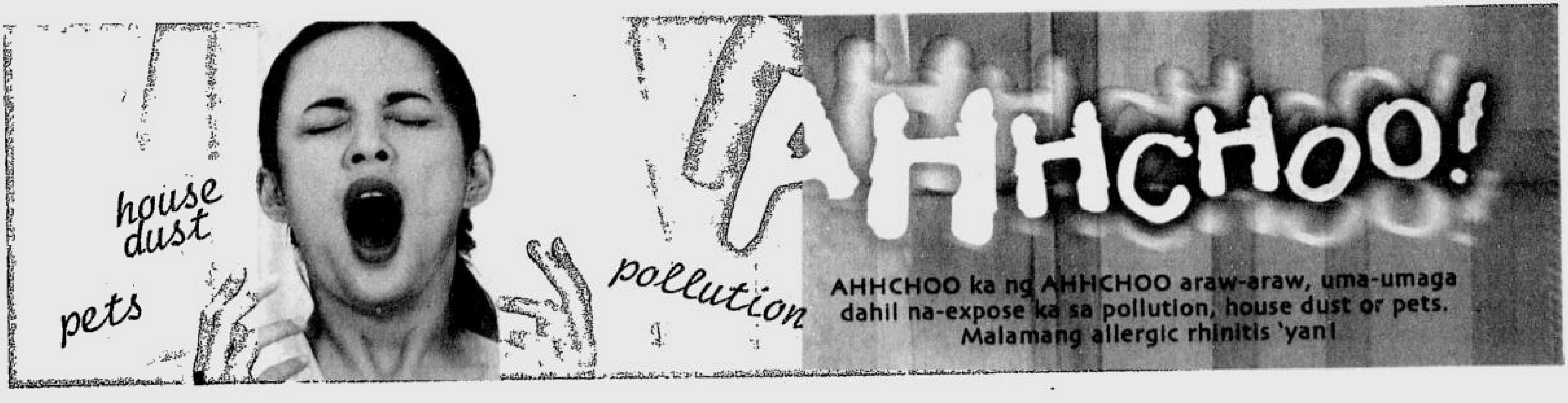
**Gang Xian Herbal Tea for Men** is available in all leading drugstores & supermarkets nationwide. It is distributed by **REJ Diamond Pharmaceuticals, Inc.** located at Commonwealth Ave., Quezon City.
For inquiries, e-mail *rejpharma@tri-isys.com.ph.*

EXTENDED!
BIG 25% OFF
ON LASERLIGHT
HAIR REMOVAL
Facial care centre

Enrol for any LaserLight Hair Removal programme until **April 23, 2005* and you can still avail of a BIG 25% DISCOUNT!** Whether you're fair, dark, or somewhere in between, you can have satin smooth, hair-free skin on your underarms, upper lip, and legs. Because LaserLight Hair Removal is proven effective on all skin types or color. Safe and gentle, it is the only treatment that is US FDA-approved for the permanent reduction of unsightly, unwanted hair anywhere on your body. So you can enjoy your softer, smoother whiter hair-free skin.

Now you'll truly love the skin you're in! Call the Facial Care Centre professionals NOW!

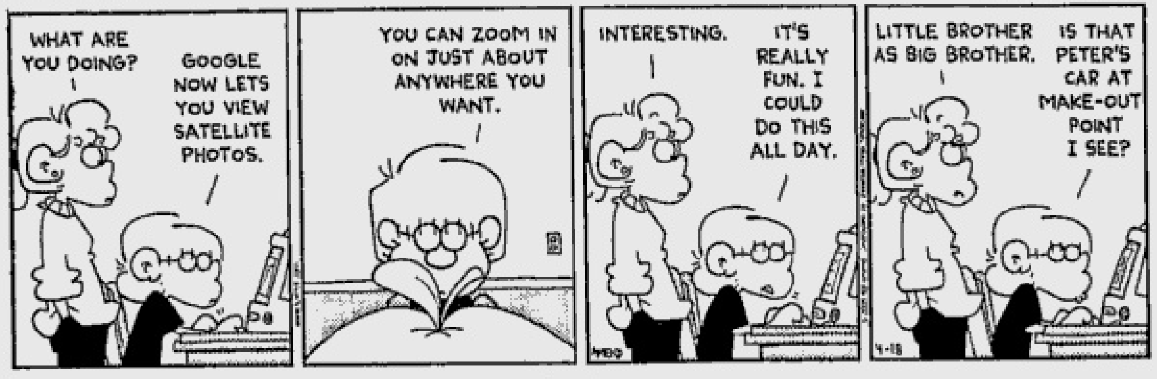
CALL 892-SKIN (7546)
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
www.facialcarecentre.com.ph
MAKATI ORTIGAS TOMAS MORATO BINONDO ALABANG SHAW CONGRESSIONAL PAMPANGA (961-3404) CEBU (233-7631)



AHHCHOO ka ng AHHCHOO araw-araw, uma-umaga dahil na-expose ka sa pollution, house dust or pets. Malamang allergic rhinitis 'yan!

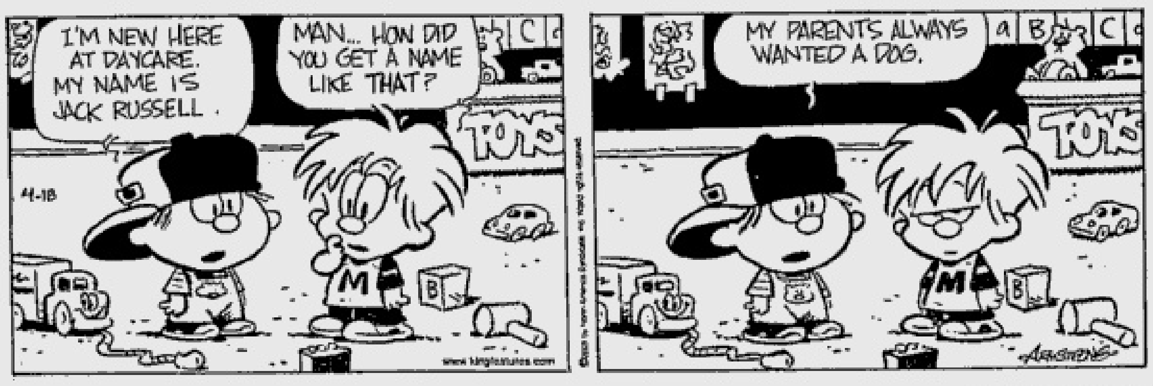
## FOXTROT

BY BILL AMEND


WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
GOOGLE NOW LETS YOU VIEW SATELLITE PHOTOS.
YOU CAN ZOOM IN ON JUST ABOUT ANYWHERE YOU WANT.
INTERESTING.
IT'S REALLY FUN. I COULD DO THIS ALL DAY.
LITTLE BROTHER AS BIG BROTHER.
IS THAT PETER'S CAR AT MAKE-OUT POINT I SEE?
4-18

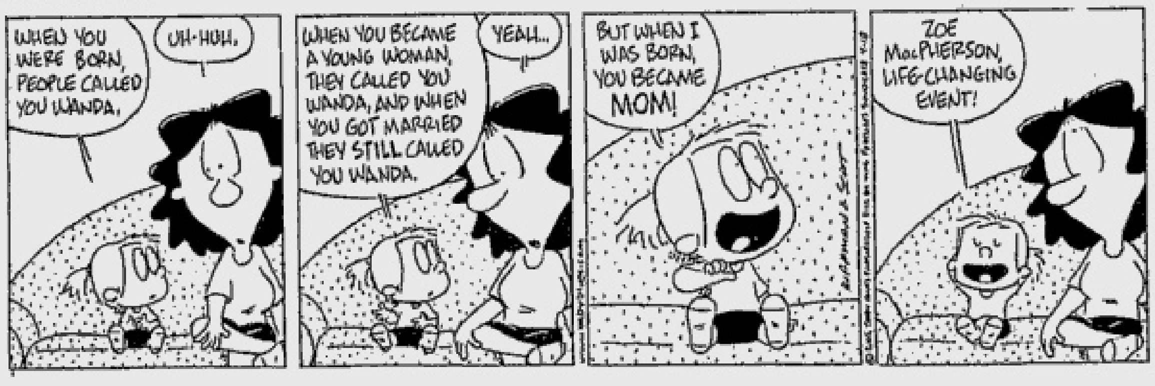
## MARVIN

BY TOM ARMSTRONG


I'M NEW HERE AT DAYCARE. MY NAME IS JACK RUSSELL.
MAN... HOW DID YOU GET A NAME LIKE THAT?
TOYS
4-18
MY PARENTS ALWAYS WANTED A DOG.
TOYS

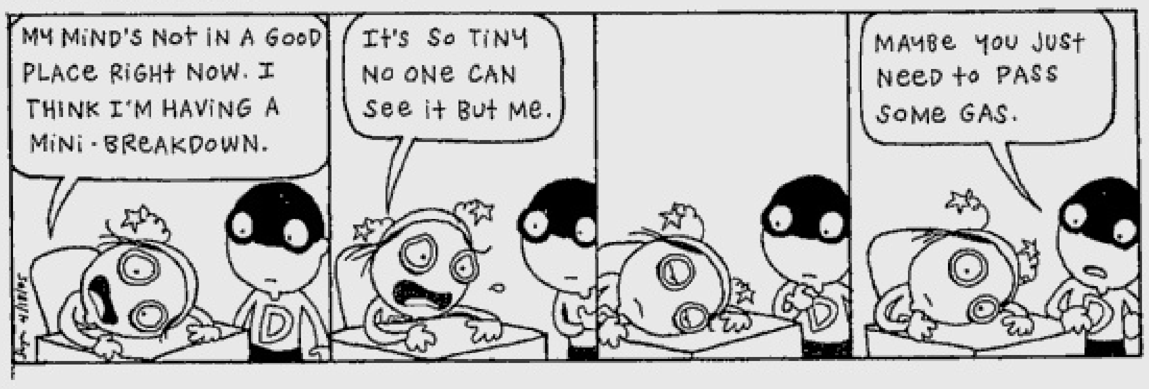
## BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


WHEN YOU WERE BORN, PEOPLE CALLED YOU WANDA.
UH-HUH.
WHEN YOU BECAME A YOUNG WOMAN, THEY CALLED YOU WANDA, AND WHEN YOU GOT MARRIED THEY STILL CALLED YOU WANDA.
YEAH...
BUT WHEN I WAS BORN, YOU BECAME MOM!
ZOE MacPHERSON, LIFE-CHANGING EVENT!

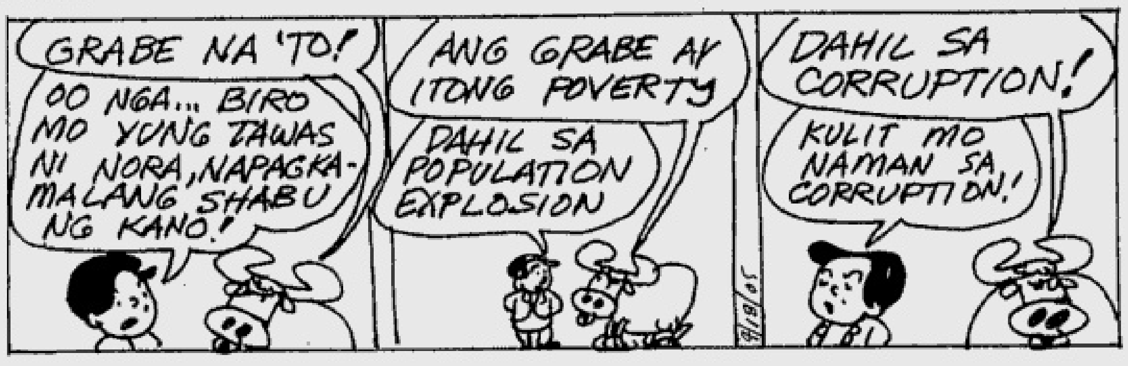
## ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


MY MIND'S NOT IN A GOOD PLACE RIGHT NOW. I THINK I'M HAVING A MINI-BREAKDOWN.
IT'S SO TINY NO ONE CAN SEE IT BUT ME.
MAYBE YOU JUST NEED TO PASS SOME GAS.

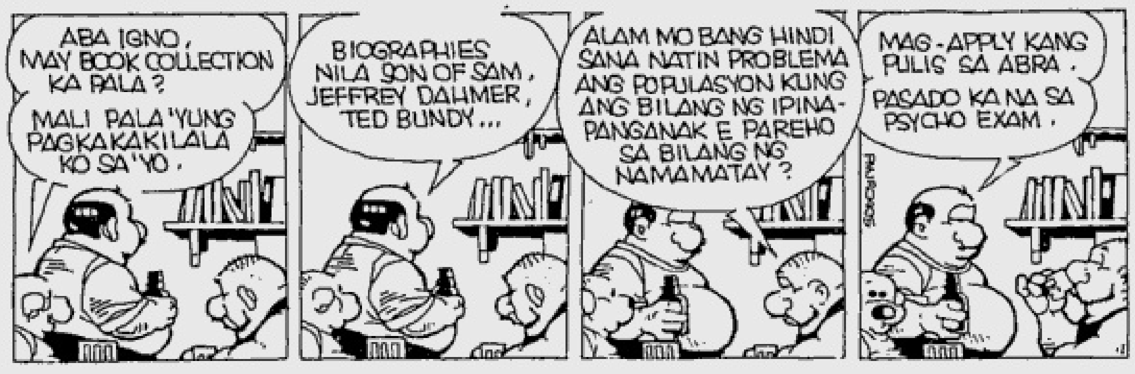
## A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


GRABE NA 'TO!
OO NGA... BIRO MO YUNG TAWAS NI NORA, NAPAGKA-MALANG SHABU NG KANO!
ANG GRABE AY ITONG POVERTY
DAHIL SA POPULATION EXPLOSION
DAHIL SA CORRUPTION!
KULIT MO NAMAN SA CORRUPTION!

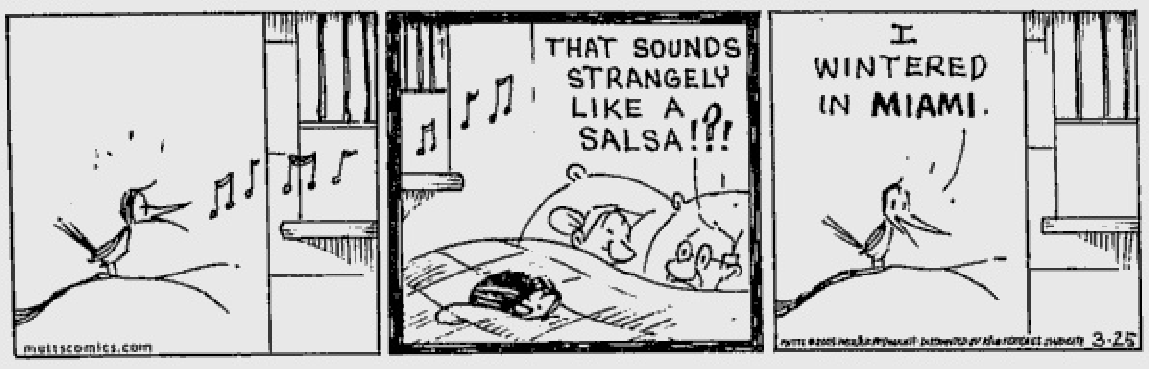
## PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


ABA IGNO, MAY BOOK COLLECTION KA PALA?
MALI PALA 'YUNG PAGKAKAKILALA KO SA 'YO.
BIOGRAPHIES NILA SON OF SAM, JEFFREY DAHMER, TED BUNDY...
ALAM MO BANG HINDI SANA NATIN PROBLEMA ANG POPULASYON KUNG ANG BILANG NG IPINA-PANGANAK E PAREHO SA BILANG NG NAMAMATAY?
MAG-APPLY KANG PULIS SA ABRA.
PASADO KA NA SA PSYCHO EXAM.

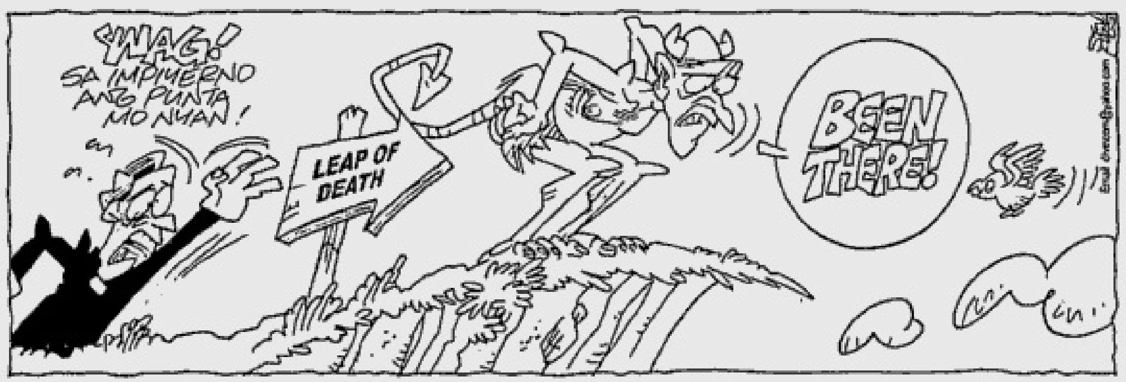
## MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


THAT SOUNDS STRANGELY LIKE A SALSA!?!
I WINTERED IN MIAMI.
muttscomics.com
3-25

## DIVINE COMEDY

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


'WAG! SA IMPIYERNO ANG PUNTA MO NYAN!
LEAP OF DEATH
BEEN THERE!

## HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

**YOU BORN TODAY:** Your personal honor and integrity are extremely important to you. You will not compromise yourself. You believe in yourself. You will fight not only for your own cause, but the causes of others as well. You have a certain nobility about you that makes others instantly respect you. The year ahead focuses on your closest relationships.

**Birthdate of:** Eric McCormack, actor; Havley Mills, actress; Conan O'Brien, TV host.

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** Do something today that solidifies your home base. It's important that you have a steady, reliable anchor in the world. Improve where you live.

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20):** If you're in the process of moving or are moving in the future, get down to business. Organize your belongings. Many of you are changing jobs and changing residences right now.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** You might be questioning your job & where you work. What you really want to know is, What matters in life? You want to have values that are solid and reliable.

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22):** It's been a whole new world for the past year or two. Don't be afraid to strike out in a new direction. Don't play it safe. You're beginning to reinvent yourself.

**LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22):** Go through what you own and weed out what is no longer necessary to keep. Give things away; sell them; and just throw some things out.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22):** You're looking for something more meaningful. You want to be part of something bigger than yourself. You want to think that what you do makes a difference.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** Now you see very clearly what is working in your life and what is not. This is helpful to know. Be strong enough to let go of what is not working. This is not failure: It's new knowledge.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** You're getting ready for a very powerful career peak in your life. Work hard now, because this is a time of preparation.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** Lately, you've been getting along with less. This will change very soon. In the meantime, you can appreciate the fact that your confidence has increased. You're stronger, and you know it.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19):** Relationships have been challenging lately. That's because you are becoming stronger and more empowered. Don't worry. This is inevitable.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18):** This is a time of hard work. You're busting your buns. Keep at it, because your rewards will be soon at hand.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20):** Along with increased responsibilities with children, you have an increasing desire to figure out what you want to be when you grow up. If you do what you like, you'll like what you do. Simple.

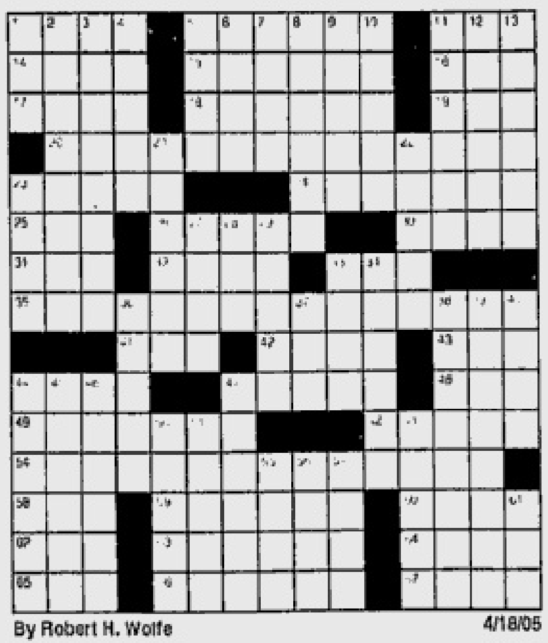
## DAILY CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

1 Moves up and down
5 Act well
11 Police blotter letters
14 Break sharply
15 Silverstone of "Clueless"
16 Remote ctrl. button
17 Gillette blade
18 Subsequent airings
19 Eastern Can. province
20 Common greeting
23 Short, tubular pasta
24 Other finisher
25 Record co.
26 Genus of dogs
30 Cravings
31 Sally Field film, "Norma __"
32 Young adult
33 AST part
35 Common greeting
41 Directional suffix
42 Accompanying
43 Nautical dir.
44 Penn or Connery
47 Of the Arctic
48 PC key
49 Land area
52 Heart chambers
54 Common greeting
58 Pilfer
59 Birchbark transportation
60 Partiality
62 Slender swimmer
63 Burdens
64 Abbr. in airport names
65 HST successor
66 Squeal
67 Maturing agent

**DOWN**

1 Youth grp.
2 In a struggle, as wrestlers
3 Peerage estates
4 Engender
5 Denuded
6 Alt.
7 Take on
8 Line of Hondas
9 Plastics base
10 Bridge positions
11 Strive (toward)
12 Actor Wynn
13 Trues up
21 Military division
22 Authority on card games
23 Gilpin of "Frasier"
27 Very long time
28 Buntline or Beatty
29 Down the middle
33 Cinematic canine
34 Shah's capital
36 "The Screens" dramatist
37 Lubricate
38 Restless desire
39 Bind
40 Org. of court players
44 Flew into a rage
45 Resounded
46 Fit for cultivation
47 Goober
50 Fancy cravat
51 Accra location
53 Leg bone
55 Kellogg's competitor
56 Outer banana
57 Caesar's being
61 Abbr. on many cameras



By Robert H. Wolfe
North Woodmere, NY

4/18/05

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

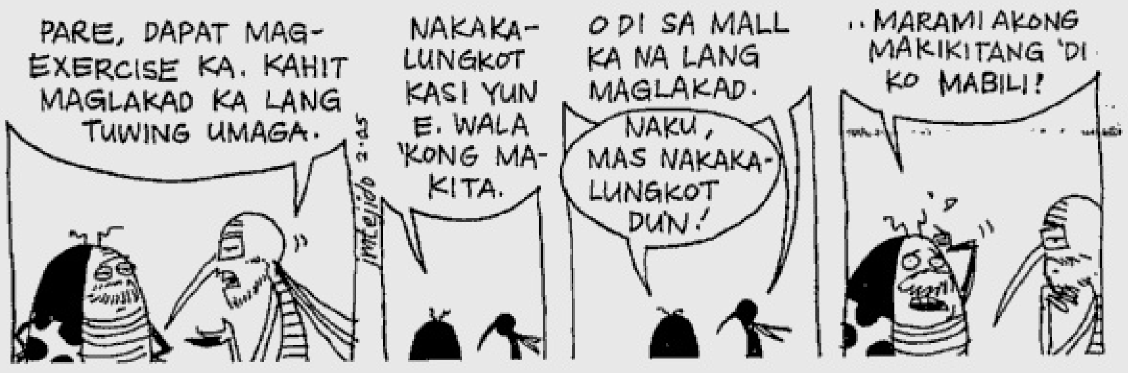
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | R | S | O | N | I | S | T | ■ | E | S | C | A | P | E |
| B | E | A | R | A | B | L | E | ■ | L | E | A | D | O | N |
| I | G | N | I | T | I | O | N | ■ | U | T | M | O | S | T |
| D | A | T | E | ■ | D | E | S | ■ | C | O | P | P | E | R |
| E | L | A | N | D | ■ | ■ | ■ | T | I | N | ■ | T | I | E |
| R | E | S | T | I | T | U | T | E | D | ■ | A | I | D | A |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | P | A | T | I | N | A | ■ | L | O | O | T |
| H | O | P | S | ■ | C | A | R | A | T | ■ | I | N | N | S |
| A | C | R | E | ■ | T | H | E | N | E | T | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| S | T | E | W | ■ | L | A | S | T | S | U | P | P | E | R |
| S | U | M | ■ | M | E | N | ■ | ■ | ■ | G | O | O | S | E |
| O | P | I | N | E | S | ■ | E | M | A | ■ | O | P | T | S |
| C | L | E | A | T | S | ■ | M | I | S | T | R | E | A | T |
| K | E | R | N | E | L | ■ | I | M | P | O | L | I | T | E |
| S | T | E | A | D | Y | ■ | R | E | S | T | Y | L | E | D |

(C)2005 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved

4/18/05

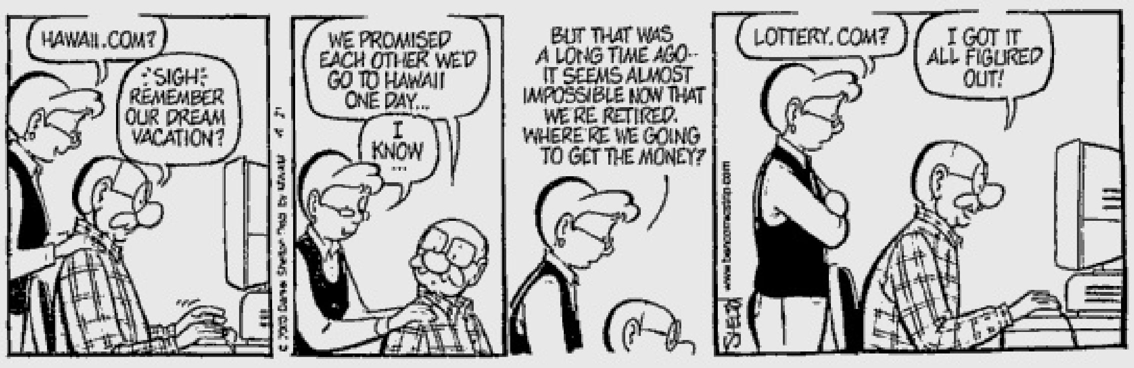
## MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


PARE, DAPAT MAG-EXERCISE KA. KAHIT MAGLAKAD KA LANG TUWING UMAGA.
NAKAKA-LUNGKOT KASI YUN E. WALA 'KONG MA-KITA.
O DI SA MALL KA NA LANG MAGLAKAD.
NAKU, MAS NAKAKA-LUNGKOT DUN!
..MARAMI AKONG MAKIKITANG 'DI KO MABILI!

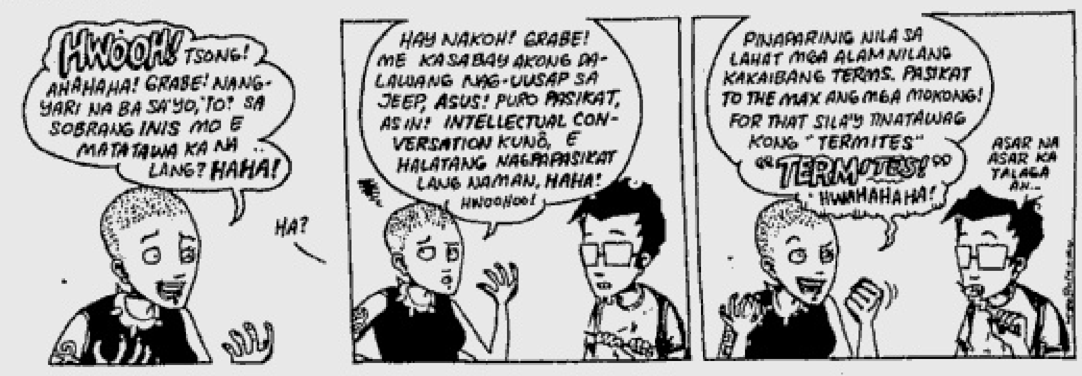
## BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


HAWAII.COM?
SIGH REMEMBER OUR DREAM VACATION?
WE PROMISED EACH OTHER WE'D GO TO HAWAII ONE DAY...
I KNOW...
BUT THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO-- IT SEEMS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE NOW THAT WE'RE RETIRED. WHERE'RE WE GOING TO GET THE MONEY?
LOTTERY.COM?
I GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT!

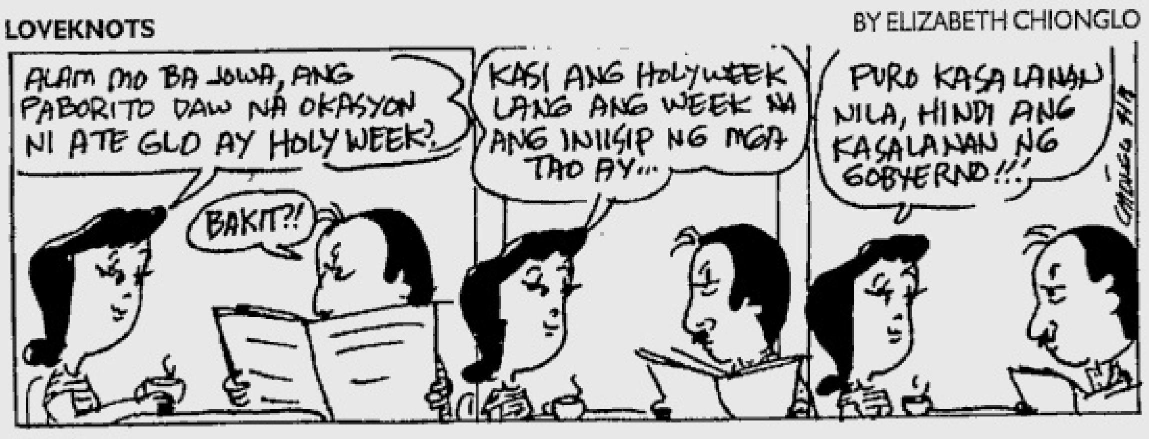
## KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


HWOOH! TSONG! AHAHAHA! GRABE! NANGYARI NA BA SA'YO, 'TO? SA SOBRANG INIS MO E MATATAWA KA NA LANG? HAHA!
HA?
HAY NAKOH! GRABE! ME KASABAY AKONG DALAWANG NAG-UUSAP SA JEEP, ASUS! PURO PASIKAT, AS IN! INTELLECTUAL CONVERSATION KUNO, E HALATANG NAGPAPASIKAT LANG NAMAN, HAHA! HWOOHOO!
PINAPARINIG NILA SA LAHAT MGA ALAM NILANG KAKAIBANG TERMS. PASIKAT TO THE MAX ANG MGA MOKONG! FOR THAT SILA'Y TINATAWAG KONG "TERMITES" OR TERMITES! HWAHAHAHA!
ASAR NA ASAR KA TALAGA AH...

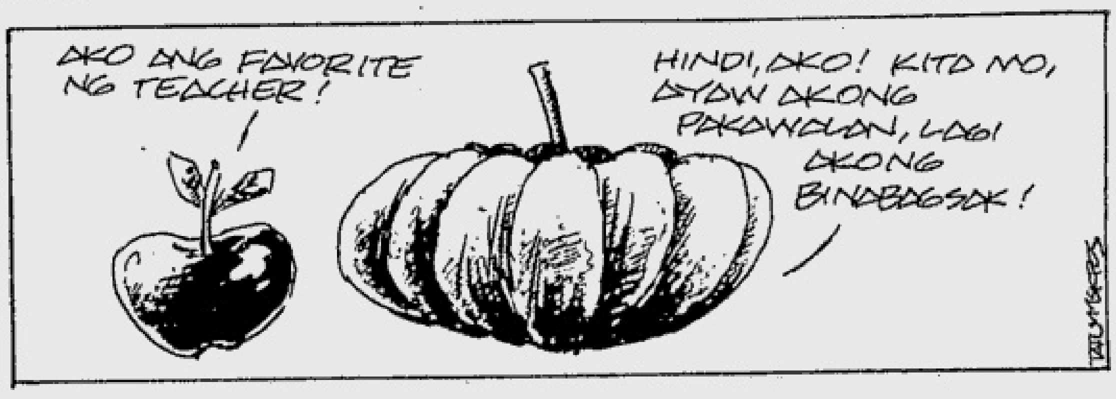
## LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


ALAM MO BA JOWA, ANG PABORITO DAW NA OKASYON NI ATE GLO AY HOLY WEEK?
BAKIT?!
KASI ANG HOLY WEEK LANG ANG WEEK NA ANG INIISIP NG MGA TAO AY...
PURO KASALANAN NILA, HINDI ANG KASALANAN NG GOBYERNO!!!

## TULDOK

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


AKO ANG FAVORITE NG TEACHER!
HINDI, AKO! KITA MO, AYAW AKONG PAKAWALAN, LAGI AKONG BINABAGSAK!

## *UST national writing workshop fellows named*

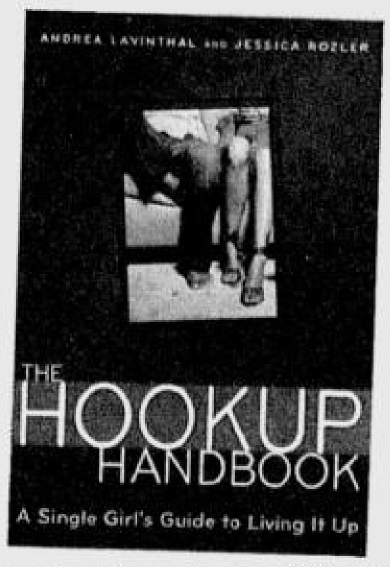
THE UNIVERSITY of Santo Tomas Center for Creative Writing and Studies (UST-CCWS) has named 15 fellows to the 6th UST National Writers Workshop on April 18-23, at the Development Academy of the Philippines in Tagaytay City.

The fellows for fiction in English are Ronald Allan L. Benusa and Russell C. Mendoza. The fellows for fiction in Filipino are April Camille K. Banzon and Maria Zarinah Escover.

The fellows for poetry in English are Emmanuel Rentoy, Cherie M. del Rio, Raymond John A. de Borja, Benedict B. Parfan, Glenn Vincent K. Atanacio, Mary Abigail S. Austriaco, Sharline J. Bareng and Herminia F. Gabutina. The fellows for poetry in Filipino are Ericka Lynn S. Emmas, Noraida P. Velarmino and Beverly W. Siy.

Fellowship includes transportation, board and lodging. Workshop directors are Dr. Ophelia Dimalanta and Cirilo F. Bautista.

# Wide and varied readings

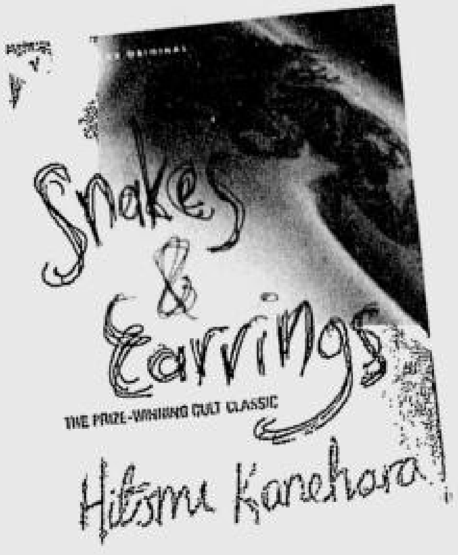

ANDREA LAVINTHAL and JESSICA ROZLER
THE HOOKUP HANDBOOK
A Single Girl's Guide to Living It Up

**"THE HOOKUP Handbook: A Single Girl's Guide to Living It Up" by Andrea Lavinthal and Jessica Rozler, Simon Spotlight Entertainment, 232 pages**

A couple of decades ago, there was a female dating bible called "The Rules," which was guaranteed to hook a husband as long as one followed its instructions to the letter. Today, women without boyfriends are no longer wallflowers but successful and sexy, and have too much fun being single to even think of settling down. This book gives today's single woman all the advice she needs on how to survive and triumph in any kind of non-relationship.

**"Snakes and Earrings" by Hitomi Kanehara, Vintage, 118 pages**

This prize-winning short Japanese novel is disturbing and mesmerizing in its simplicity. Lui meets Ama in a bar and is fascinated by his forked tongue and tattoos. She soon begins to do the same to her body, and enters a bizarre sadomasochistic love triangle as she struggles to define her identity.



**"Revenge of the Wannabes" by Lisi Harrison, Little, Brown, 296 pages**

Massie Block and the girls from The Clique are back in the third installment of this hot teen series! Determined to start a clique of her own, Alicia Rivera works on stealing the members of the A-List group she used to belong to, or, failing that, finding the closest replicas she can to the original fab four.

**"The Au Pairs" by Melissa de la Cruz, Simon and Schuster, 294 pages**

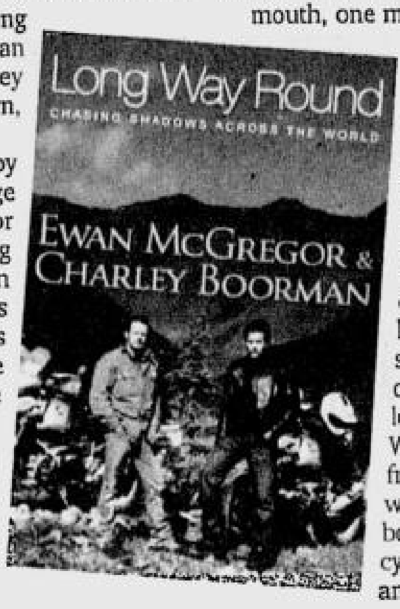
Hot on the heels of "The Fashionista Files" comes this sizzling story for young adults by the same author. What better way for three teenage girls to spend their summer than by living it up in the Hamptons? Of course it's not just fun and boys—there's a small matter of the four children they're looking after. In between babysitting and parties, there's shopping, bonding and chances for the girls to find love.

**"Kitten's First Full Moon" by Kevin Henkes, Greenwillow Books, 40 pages**

Winner of the 2004 Caldecott Medal, this charming picture book is the tale of a little kitten who sets off to find and enjoy the giant saucer of milk in the sky.

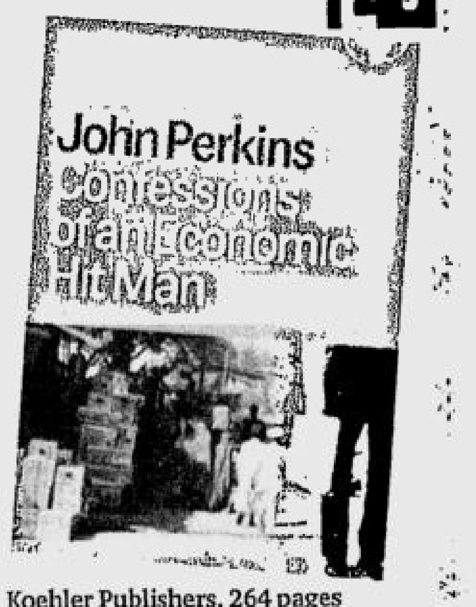
**"Sin City" by Frank Miller**

The graphic novel that is the basis for the upcoming film, "Long Way Round," by Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman, Little Brown, 320 pages


Long Way Round
CHASING SHADOWS ACROSS THE WORLD
EWAN MCGREGOR & CHARLEY BOORMAN

Traveling the world by motorbike is a challenge in itself, but makes for much more interesting reading when the main characters are famous Hollywood faces. This book ties in with the television series of the same name and recalls the adventures of "Obi Wan Kenobi."

**"Confessions of an Economic Hit Man" by John Perkins Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 264 pages**



In a country like ours where corruption is rampant, this book will be a sure bestseller. Told straight from the horse's mouth, one man describes the way he manipulated less developed countries into financial dependence on the United States of America. From relatively small things such as fraudulent financial statements, payoffs and rigged elections, Perkins discusses the biggest hits—how men like himself convince underdeveloped nations to accept loans from entities like the World Bank for huge infrastructure projects, which are mainly for the benefit of the US. Conspiracy theory or truth? Read it and judge for yourself.

## THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COSMETIC SURGERY

When we talk about cosmetic surgery, things that come first in our minds are stars and celebrities that have undergone facelift, nose lift, breast enlargement, or liposuction. Oftentimes, the idea about it brings society condemnation, disapproval, and endless criticism. Contrary to these perceptions, cosmetic surgery was given birth not solely for glamorous and aesthetic purposes. Science found the light in cosmetic or plastic surgery to bring about hope to birth disfigurement and war caused deformities. Its noble purpose is to give hope for the unfortunate newborns to live normally and a new life for soldiers and war victims to restore their shattered faces and confidence.

Now, the concept on cosmetic surgery has been diversified. It is now being attributed to many things. Technology, social acceptance, awareness to various media outlets, and people of our new generation giving so much focus on health and fitness, led to the progression of wanting to look good and feel good at the same time. People have deemed cosmetic surgery is the answer to that.

### What is Cosmetic Surgery?

Cosmetic Surgery is a subspecialty of medicine that focuses on the enhancement of appearance through surgical and medical techniques. It is specifically concerned with the maintaining of normal appearance, restoring it, or enhancing it beyond the average level toward some aesthetic ideal.

### Things to consider before undergoing a surgery

**Determine your purpose.** Ask yourself why you want to have a plastic surgery. More than the aesthetic and even financial aspect of the treatment, do you think you are physically and emotionally prepared to accept a new you? Contemplate more and consider a lot of factors before surrendering yourself to the operating room.

**Set realistic goals and expectation.** Cosmetic surgery is not some sort of magical ritual or procedure. It is not some sort of spell that will fit the saying 'your wish is your surgeon's command'. Cosmetic surgery may be considered a spectacular medical aesthetic treatment but it also has its boundaries and limitations. Art and beauty as it may seem, still science coiled to it does not promise a perfect you. As defined earlier, cosmetic surgery is more confined on enhancement or restoration rather than change or transformation.

**On finding the right surgeon.** The criteria on finding the right if not, the best surgeon should be high and tough. We must be very careful in this particular category for in your decision lies the destiny of your face or your body. It is a matter of not life and death but rather, of beauty and madness. Special skill and knowledge are essential in the practice of plastic surgery. Basic requirement is that your surgeon should be a certified and licensed physician. Competency in the following fields like anatomy, physiology, pathology, and basic sciences are also plus factors. Your surgeon should also have subspecialty and knowledge in all contributing disciplines like facial plastic surgery, general surgery, and dermatology. In fact, international medical institutions are now giving emphasis on formally introducing a new branch of skin science called "dermatological cosmetic surgery". All in all, competency in cosmetic surgery implies a combination of knowledge, surgical judgment, technical expertise and ethics in order to achieve the goal of providing aesthetic improvement.

While cosmetic surgery is an immensely positive experience for many people, we should know that there are advantages and disadvantages that may lie ahead. With the growing acceptance and openness to cosmetic surgery, it is also essential that we identify our purpose and not lose sight on the history of how it should be used.

Dermclinic, one of the most trusted dermatological clinics in the country offers Professional Cosmetic Surgery services done by its league of true skin experts. Its line-up of certified dermatologists and competent surgeons commit itself to providing the best medical aesthetic procedures like artists who are passionate to accomplish a masterpiece.

To help you know more about the procedure or service you are interested in, it would be best to discuss with the doctor/surgeon your needs and expectations. Call or visit Dermclinic's nearest branch now for a **FREE CONSULTATION** or contact their hotline through **818-6477** for inquiries.

### About Dermclinic

*Dr. Vinson B. Pineda, a well - respected and internationally recognized dermatologist established Dermclinic more than 30 years ago and is now considered as an institution which has mastered the art and science of skin health and wellness. In fact Dermclinic, has been the learning ground of some notable dermatologists in town today.*

A WORK OF ART
DONE WITH PASSION

YOU DESERVE ONE OF THE FINEST IN SKIN SCIENCE.
BE WITH THE LEAGUE OF TRUE EXPERTS.

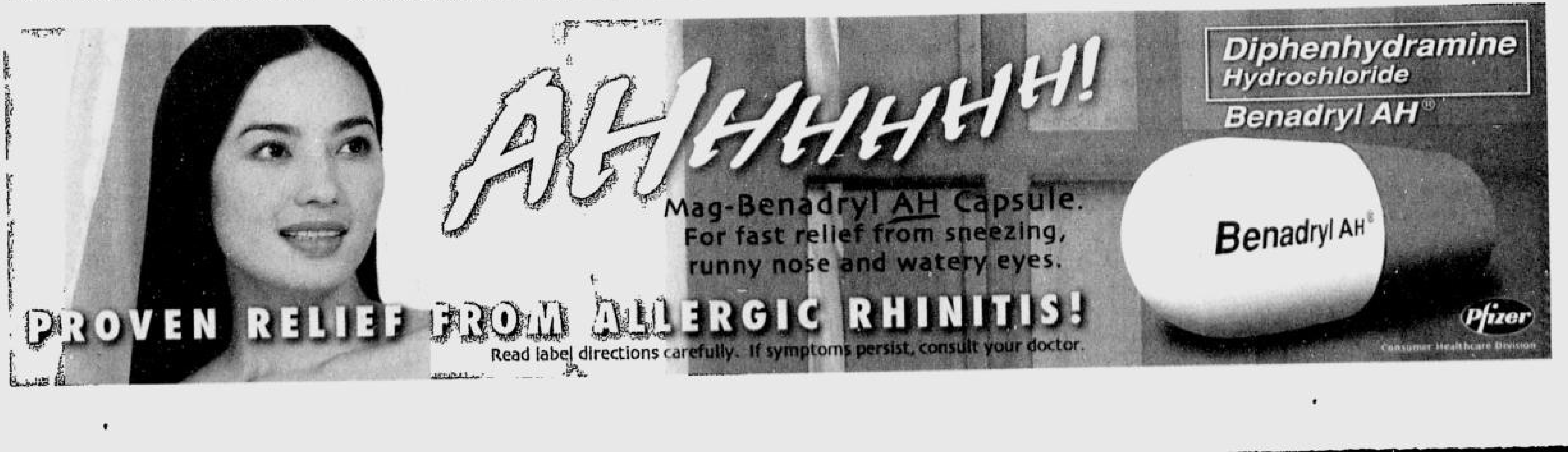
PROFESSIONAL
COSMETIC SURGERY
by dermclinic

Cosmetic Surgery Services
Aptos Thread • Facelift • Eyelid Deep Setting • Eye Bag Removal • Noselift Ear Reconstruction • Chin Augmentation / Reduction • Mole Excision • Breast Augmentation / Reduction • Tummy Tuck • Liposuction • Scar Revision Varicose Veins Treatment • Hair Transplant

Other Services
Acne Clear Treatment • Facials • Wart Clear Treatment • Fruit-Based Peel Blue Peel • Intense Diamond Peel • Dermabrasion • Botox • Mesotherapy Restylane / Perlane • Other dermatological services

Visit our nearest branch or call us now!
FREE CONSULTATION
Hotline: (02)818.6477

Amorsolo Makati 818.6274 • Capitol Medical Center III 374.3678 • Greenhills 721.3536 • SM City 927.0114 • SM Centerpoint 716.0716 • SM Megamall 633.3361 • Harrison Plaza 521.8293 Tutuban Centermall 253.2055 • Alabang Town Center 807.2169 • SM Southmall 806.4614 SM Fairview 417.3515 • Park Square II Ayala Center 893.0684 • SM Manila 527.4229 • SM Sucat 829.3155 • SM Bicutan 777.9345 • Robinsons Place Metro East 646.8402 • SM Bacoor (046) 502.0490 • SM Pampanga (045) 961.2842 • SM Iloilo (033) 320.5501 • SM Cebu (032) 232.0752 SM Davao (082) 297.5939 • SM Dasmariñas (046) 432.3230 • SOON TO OPEN SM BATANGAS CITY



Mag-Benadryl AH Capsule.
For fast relief from sneezing, runny nose and watery eyes.
PROVEN RELIEF FROM ALLERGIC RHINITIS!
Read label directions carefully. If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

# Tales from the heart

**By Rowena C. Burgos**

A POP concert king, a member of the Sigue-Sigue gang, a revolutionary fighting for a cause, a successful businessman, a pimp living in luxury, an athlete at the peak of his career and a drug-crazed wanderer are some of the 31 people featured in the book "This Is My Story."

These individuals, who once reached the dead-end street of sin and hopelessness, have found light and strength in the words of God, which eventually gave meaning to their lives.

Published by OMF Literature Inc. and Cityland Foundation Inc., "This Is My Story" features anecdotes written in a direct, conversational style, tinged with a personal and deeply human character.

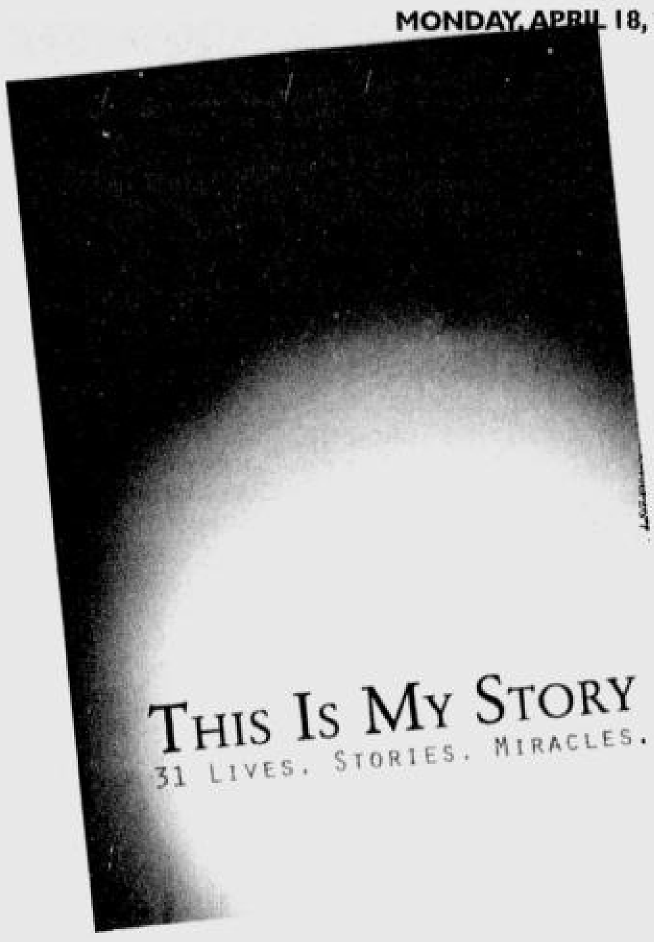
The authors—Noel Alberto, Michael Asperin, Jose Balais, Susan Blancaflor, Jose Calida, Alejandro Castillo, Renato Constantino, Donita Rose, Dulce, Toni Rose Gayda, Ernesto Gochuico, Edgardo Gonzales, Frank Gadani, Cesar Guy, Padim Israel, Wyden King, Francis Kong, Raymond Lim, Proceso Marcelo, Steve Mirpuri, Maricel Laxa-Pangilinan, Eduardo Pilapil, Jess Ramos, Coney Reyes, Corazon Santos, Vins Santiago, Enrique Sarthou, Corazon Tantengco, Gary Valenciano, Chiqui Veneracion and Eddie Villanueva—have written straight from, and straight to, the heart.

## Inspiring tales

In the story "Little Warden No More," Noel Alberto tells how he transformed from a dreaded little warden of Manila City Jail to the bearer of God's Good News of forgiveness and salvation. Now a senior pastor of One in Christ Community Church in Tondo, his dream is to build a House of Hope for those who will be released from prison.

"Most ex-prisoners need a place to stay before they are reunited with their families. I wish to offer not just shelter but the same hope that I received when I met Jesus Christ," he says in the book.

> Through the stories of Gary Valenciano and 30 other men and women in 'This Is My Story,' readers will realize that the word of God is gloriously alive



Renato Constantino, on the other hand, was lured by the communists' simple lifestyle and tireless dedication to the cause of uplifting the plight of the masses, so he committed himself to the Communist Party of the Philippines. In "Fighting for a Cause," he recounts how his arrest by the Central Intelligence Security and one-year detention at Camp Crame brought him newfound faith in Christ, inner peace and contentment despite the difficulty of not being able to provide for his family and the threat of conviction.

When he was set free, Constantino joined the Greenhills Christian Fellowship-South Metro and helped formulate the church's social action ministry which is involved in community development.

"This confirmed in my heart that God really had a plan for me," writes Constantino, now the chief operating officer of Voith Paper Inc.

In "Sure Ball," former basketball star Padim Israel says that in spite of his success, his "private life was not acceptable in heaven's court. Before 1987, I was in a way playing footsies with hell's court."

He was bothered that his lifestyle was not befitting a professional athlete who was supposed to be a good role model to others. Such concern was triggered by his growing understanding of morality and love for actress Rio Locsin, then his girlfriend. So he joined a Bible study in the house of former teammate Freddie Hubalde. This was where he finally understood his perceived gap with God.

After that, Israel began living in dependence and obedience to the Lord. Then, when he was ready to be a husband and father to Locsin's two daughters, they got married in 1993. Retired from basketball and with depleted financial resources, he placed his trust fully in God. He accepted an invitation to be a student pastor of Bread from Heaven Christian Fellowship, where he's now an associate pastor.

"The purpose of my life was becoming clear to me: To serve God as a faithful husband to Ojie (Locsin); as a loving father to the three lovely daughters graciously given to us; as a messenger of the Good News of salvation; and as a shepherd of His people," he says.

Similarly, although his life had the trappings of success, Wyden King, board chair and president of Armadillo Holdings, Inc. (a company engaged in office leasing, development, wet and dry markets, laundry and hotels), found his spirit restless.

"Loneliness did not have a name," he says. In "Another Kind of Building," he relates that in his search for peace and meaning, he explored New Age, yoga and Zen Buddhism. Still, he was unhappy. Then he met a spiritual adviser who helped him surrender his life to God.

With his rebirth as a Christian, King shared the Word of God with his family and office members. He also closed his five motels and converted them into establishments that serve the needs of overseas Filipino workers and other Filipinos who have long resided abroad and need a comfortable but affordable place to stay when they come home for a visit.

## Inner agony

Then there's Gary Valenciano. When his career was riding high 20 years ago, he should have been enjoying himself. Instead, Valenciano was agonizing inside, haunted by the fear of failure and obscurity.

"God to me was a distant concept, a cold enforcer with a list of do's and don'ts," he says. In "A Different Tune," the producer, recording artist, composer, actor, host and musical arranger narrates how a brother-in-law introduced God to him and his wife, Angeli Pangilinan, and how they continue to grow in their faith.

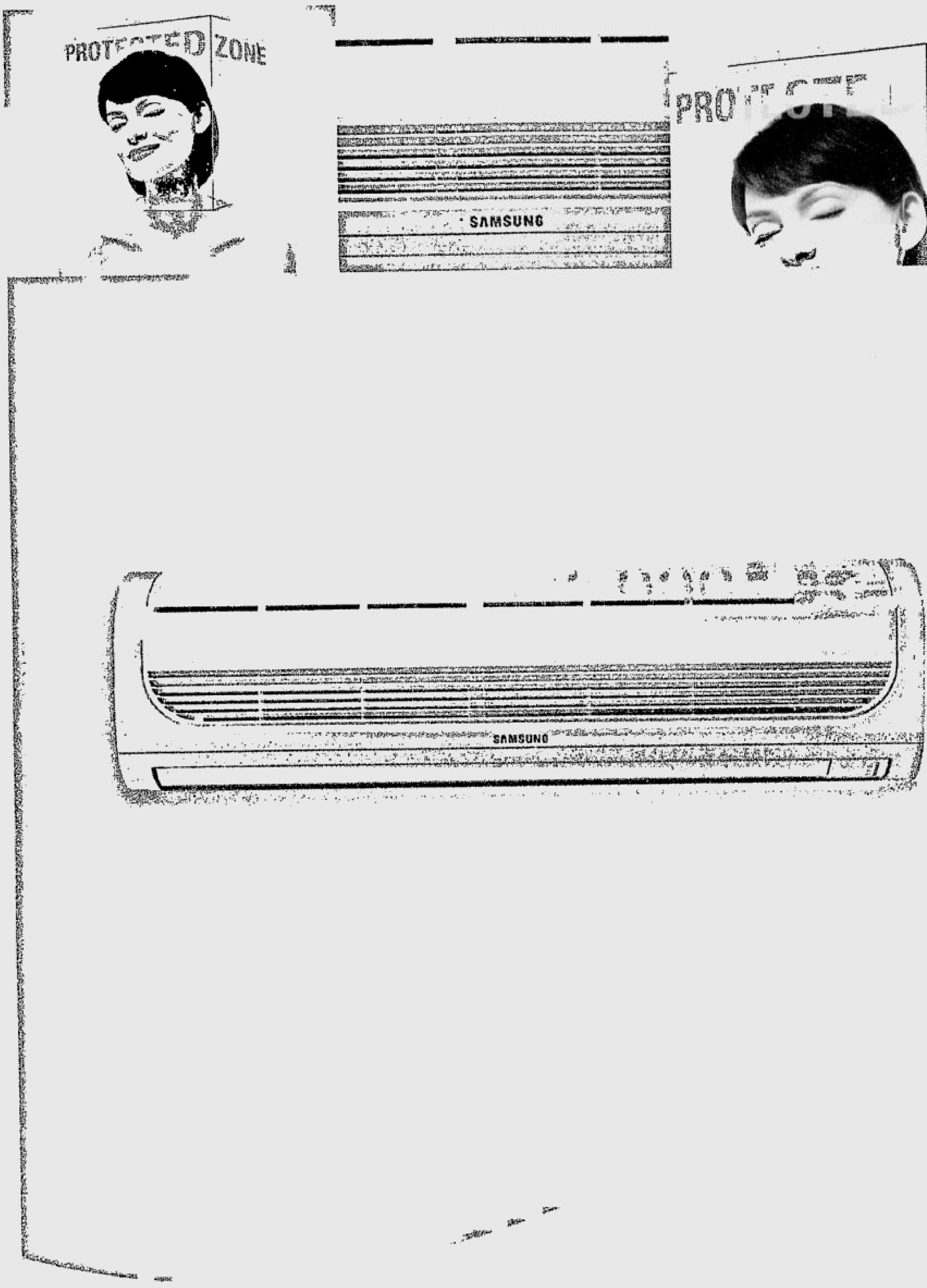
"I am a Christian who happens to be an artist, and there is nothing else I would rather be. I will forever be singing songs, many of which will be of praise to the Lord, till the end of my days and beyond."

Through the stories of Valenciano and 30 other men and women in "This Is My Story," readers will realize that the word of God is not something dead but a living reality capable of changing the life of every person who does not close his or her heart to it. The book encourages readers to confront themselves with the Truth and so relive Christ's life.

The transformative power of prayer is also evident in the lives of the authors. They remind us that prayer has the power to change perspectives. We begin with our narrow, self-centered viewpoint, but once we pray we begin to see things or situations in God's context.

To benefit from reading "This Is My Story," one must have a minimum of faith in the capacity of people to recognize the life of the spirit.

*E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph*



Silver Nano™ HEALTH SYSTEM

Protect the air you breathe.

Breathe air free of bacteria when you switch on a Samsung air conditioner. Its Silver Nano filter sterilizes and eliminates up to 99% of bacteria. Moreover, its anti-fungal properties prevent fungi from growing on the filter. The Silver Nano Health System™ also neutralises odours. Samsung air conditioners have a six-stage air purifying system, giving you clean, fresh and healthy air in your own Silver Nano Protected Zone. **www.samsung.ph**

How Silver Nano works:

Silver Nano Particle
Wall
Bacteria Cell

1. Bacteria cell
2. Cell wall is dissolved
3. Cell membrane bursts
4. Bacteria cell dies

SAMSUNG

Samsung Customer Contact Center, **1-800-10SAMSUNG** [726-7864] for PLDT or 1-800-3-SAMSUNG [726-7864] for DIGITEL.

# MESSAGES

My warmest felicitations to the men and women of Philam Plans, Inc. on the occasion of your 16th Anniversary.

For the past 16 years, we have witnessed the rapid growth of your company and through your hard work and dedication, you have established your own niche in the pre-need industry. I commend Philam Plans, Inc., as well as the entire pre-need industry, for your unrelenting efforts in improving your financial packages and services in response to the changing needs of the Filipino consumer.

As you mark another milestone in your organization, I hope you would remain true to the spirit of professionalism and service that you have pursued with passion through the years.

Your active participation in the growth of our pre-need industry, as well as in our country's economy is indeed laudable. May your steadfast support to our Administration enable us to beat the odds and achieve our goals in the Medium Term Philippine Development Plan.

*Mabuhay!*

Gloria Arroyo

HER EXCELLENCY GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
*President*
*Republic of the Philippines*

* * *

My warm congratulations to PHILAM PLANS INC. on the occasion of its 16th Anniversary.

The pre-need industry is recognized as one of the most important sectors in the Philippine capital market that has emerged as a major innovative provider of social services. For almost fifty years, it has grown to be a potent savings instrument, which seeks to address future needs of planholders or their beneficiaries.

The progress so far made by the pre-need sector in providing an alternative choice for the Filipino saver is due in part to the remarkable efforts of select pre-need firms in reaching out to the mainstream of the Philippine community.

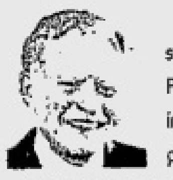
Today, PHILAM PLANS INC. has earned that stature of being one of the top pre-need companies, with its constant display of dedication and commitment in fulfilling its obligations to its clients.

I hope we continue to work together towards the sustainable development of the pre-need industry. With our continued partnership, I am confident that we can attain our common desired objective of providing a better future for the Filipino people.

*Mabuhay kayong lahat!*

FE BARIN
*Chairperson*
*Securities and Exchange Commission*

* * *



Despite having reached the pinnacle of pre-need success as it's undisputed leader for three years, Philam Plans remains true to its values of excellence, innovation, financial prudence and genuine concern for people. Philam Plans' strict adherence to these principles and standards that has allowed it to capture and maintain industry leadership.

In the midst of the uncertainty in the country and in the pre-need industry, Filipinos from all walks of life can be secure in the knowledge that Philam Plans is here for the long haul. We are fully committed to staying in this business. We will continue to send children to school. We will provide for individuals in their retirement. We will relieve loved ones of painful final decisions when plan holders are finally called by their Maker.

On Philam Plans' 16th year anniversary, I take great pleasure in announcing the company's recommitment to acting prudently and putting plan holders' interests above all else. In this way, Philam Plans will continue to be deserving of the trust of millions of its plan holders all over the country.

JOSE CUISIA, JR.
*Chairman*
*Philam Plans Inc.*

* * *

The world recognizes excellence for what it is: a testament to the vast potential within all of us to succeed. Together with this is the power to change things if we have enough faith and truly believe in ourselves — believe that our dreams can change lives and shape this world into something wonderful.

At Philam Plans, we have long dedicated ourselves to the service of the Filipino family. As a company we stand by our steadfast belief that every man, woman and child isn't just entitled to life — they deserve every good thing that life has to offer. Be it education for their children, customized retirement plans for their golden years, or a lifetime of peace of mind. The Filipino family has been our highest priority.

With eyes set firmly on the future, now is also the time for us to look back as well, and see that in all of our past successes, ours is the kind of work that truly lasts. From education, healthcare and college tuition, Philam Plans answers the call proudly, providing an invaluable service to the Filipino.

*At sa lahat ng Pilipinong tumulong sa amin maabot ang tinutungtungan namin ngayon, MARAMING MARAMING SALAMAT PO!*

JESUS HOFILEÑA
*President and CEO*
*Philam Plans Inc.*

---

# PHILAM PLANS

# Nakikiisa sa Pamilyang Pilipino

## Life marches on at a breath-taking pace. And while each turn holds great promise, the possibility of adversity is there as well. That is why it pays to be prepared.

In uncertain times, the forward-looking man and woman want to plant their foundations on something strong and lasting, come what may.

People want to believe in tomorrow.

Thanks to Philam Plans, the future still looms bright. Because for this company, a happy and comfortable life for the family comes first.

It's that simple. That powerful.

As the leader and trailblazer in the pre-need industry, the company responds to the changing needs of Filipinos. Through painstaking study, Philam Plans determines the specific needs and preferences of every kind of family—from upscale, midrange, to broad-based.

True enough, after thorough market studies, it has been revealed that Filipinos' priorities include also securing the future of their families with stable and secured pre-need products. This prompted Philam Plans to design and promote affordable pre-need products that cover most, if not all, anticipated needs of many Filipino families especially in the education of their children and boosting their retirement income in the future.

It is in knowing the things that matters most to its customers where Philam Plans creates the best valuable offers for its planholders. It is in teaching every individual how to prepare ahead for their future, educating the planholders on secured savings and adopting stringent business practices to meet its promises where Philam Plans becomes truly one with the Filipino family.

It is in believing in the future of this nation and working for its greatness where Philam Plans becomes one with its people. With each step, calling on every man, woman and child to believe with them. A simple act that says: 'This is where we belong.'

*Pangako ko,*
*kinabukasan mo*

Edukasyon ang tunay na kayamanang mabibigay mo sa kanya. Sa **Philam Plans Pangako Education Plan**, sigurado ka na may pamana ka para sa kinabukasan niya!

Ang **Pangako Education Plan** ay:

**Abot-kaya.** Sa P40 lang bawat araw, kasyang-kasya ito sa budget mo!

**Mapagkakatiwalaan.** May siguradong educational funds na mabibigay sa iyong anak para matupad ang ambisyon niya!

**Sigurado.** Ang Philam Plans ay suportado ng **Philam Life**, ang No. 1 insurance company sa Pilipinas, at **AIG**, isa sa pinakamalaking financial services company sa buong mundo! Ito ang pangako sa pamilya mo ng PHILAM PLANS. Para makasiguro ka sa edukasyon ng anak mo, **tumawag agad sa 5285-2001**

PHILAM PLANS

Pangako Education Plan

**Nakikiisa sa Pamilyang Pilipino**

AIG A Member Company of American International Group, Inc.

PHILAM PLANS

*The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services:* Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre-Need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards • Business Processing Service • Bancassurance • Financial Advisory Service

[illegible]

PHILAM PLANS

# Ensuring Your Family's Future

by Marlet D. Salazar

**IN AN ECONOMIC climate that poses greater challenge to businesses, it is nothing but a feat to still increase the number of clientele and post a significant growth in market share. Philam Plans Inc. did just that.**

In all of its 16 years, the company continues to capture a big chunk of the market and still manages to maintain a dominant position in the pre-need industry.

"We have taken the lead in the industry for the third straight year in a row," said Jesus Hofileña, Philam Plans president and chief executive officer.

In its first year of full operation alone, it placed No. 4. By its fourth year, it took over the top spot in an industry with about 90 existing pre-need companies. And in the past three years, it consistently occupies the lead position in the entire pre-need industry.

Philam Plans' actual trust fund as of December 2004 amounts to P14.3 billion. About 80 percent of these assets are invested in safe government securities and cash equivalents, making it the most liquid trust fund in the entire pre-need industry.

## Milestones

The company was launched on Oct. 12, 1989 as the pre-need arm of the Philam Group of Companies. Philam Plans is an affiliate of Philam Life and American International Group.

In 2001, Philam Plans received the Excellence in Education Award from the prestigious Life Office Management Association (LOMA), a global organization providing expertise in different fields of financial services management.

Cited twice as Most Outstanding Pre-Need Company by the Consumer's Union of the Philippines, it is also the first pre-need company to be awarded the certification for ISO 9001:2000 affirming its world-class capabilities and compliance to internationally recognized quality standards. Philam Plans has been able to constantly expand its services and is now present in all of the provinces in the country. It maintains a network close to 70 offices nationwide.

"We take much pride for having provided employment and livelihood opportunities to so many people," Hofileña said.

At present its employee force is a little over 400, and has a sales force numbering around 20,000.

## Commitment

For this year's anniversary, Philam Plans strengthens its theme that it has adapted over the years: Being one with the family.

"We want to constantly express that Philam Plans wishes to share a solidarity with the Filipino family by doing its part in preserving their financial welfare and security for the future," Hofileña said.

Over the years, Philam Plans works as partner to planholders in the people's most important and cherished goals in life, that is in the education of their children, their own retirement in the future, and in living a dignified quality of life. This is achieved through the companies' wide-range of products especially designed to meet their needs.

"We need to be able to address ourselves in such a way that we shall meet our business objectives yet at the same time be able to provide our products and services within the reach of many Filipinos," he said.

According to Hofileña, Philam Plans believes that pre-need also has a social context. "It means that it doesn't matter whether you are rich or poor, you have the same aspirations in life," he said. "And everyone is entitled to having a plan that suits their desired lifestyle."

For the company, the most important thing is seeing the number of planholders who put their faith with Philam Plans. over the years fulfill their dreams. It currently keeps a solid planholder base of over 500,000.

"We feel good about the fact that in so short a time, which is just barely 16 years we managed to accumulate a large following of pre-need clients," he said.

## The Future

Philam Plans has always been in the forefront of trying to promote awareness and appreciation for pre-need.

Hofileña explained that with an increasingly challenging environment today, there is an immense pressure of saving for the future.

"I can also imagine as each generation comes along, they have to cope with the financial pressures of being able to keep body and soul together," he said. "The present generation is probably much more conscious of the need for them to be able to manage their resources much more effectively and at the same time they are bright enough to know that there's a diversity of options available to them."

Philam Plans is engaged in the service of promoting long-term savings. Hofileña believes that there are a number of ways by which one can strengthen the planning for the future.

Some of those ways is pre-need and insurance, according to Hofileña. Given the dreams and goals a person has in life, one really needs disciplined, professionally managed savings.

"These are two financial services that one should not do without," he said. "Given the uncertainties in life everybody needs financial protection, and life insurance does that best."

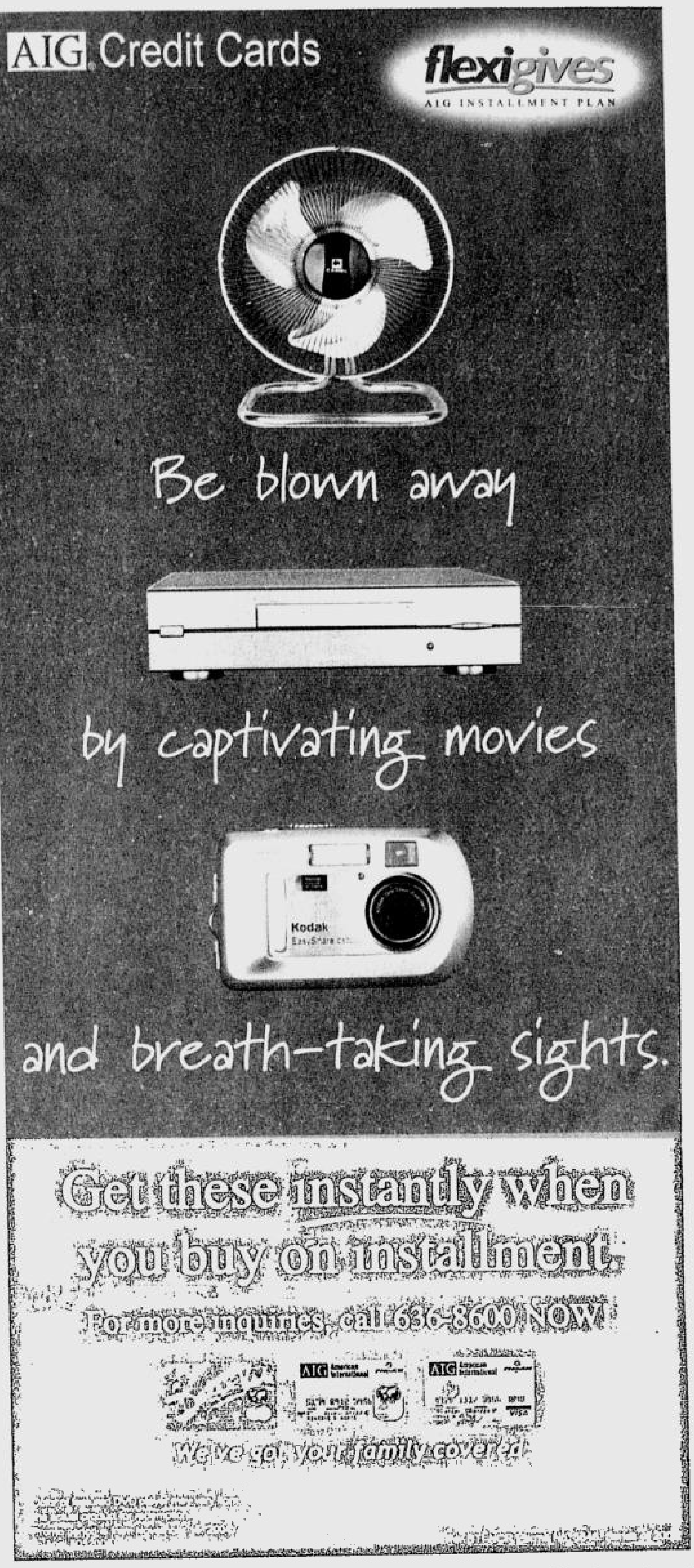
The company is conscious in exercising financial prudence and sound investment management.

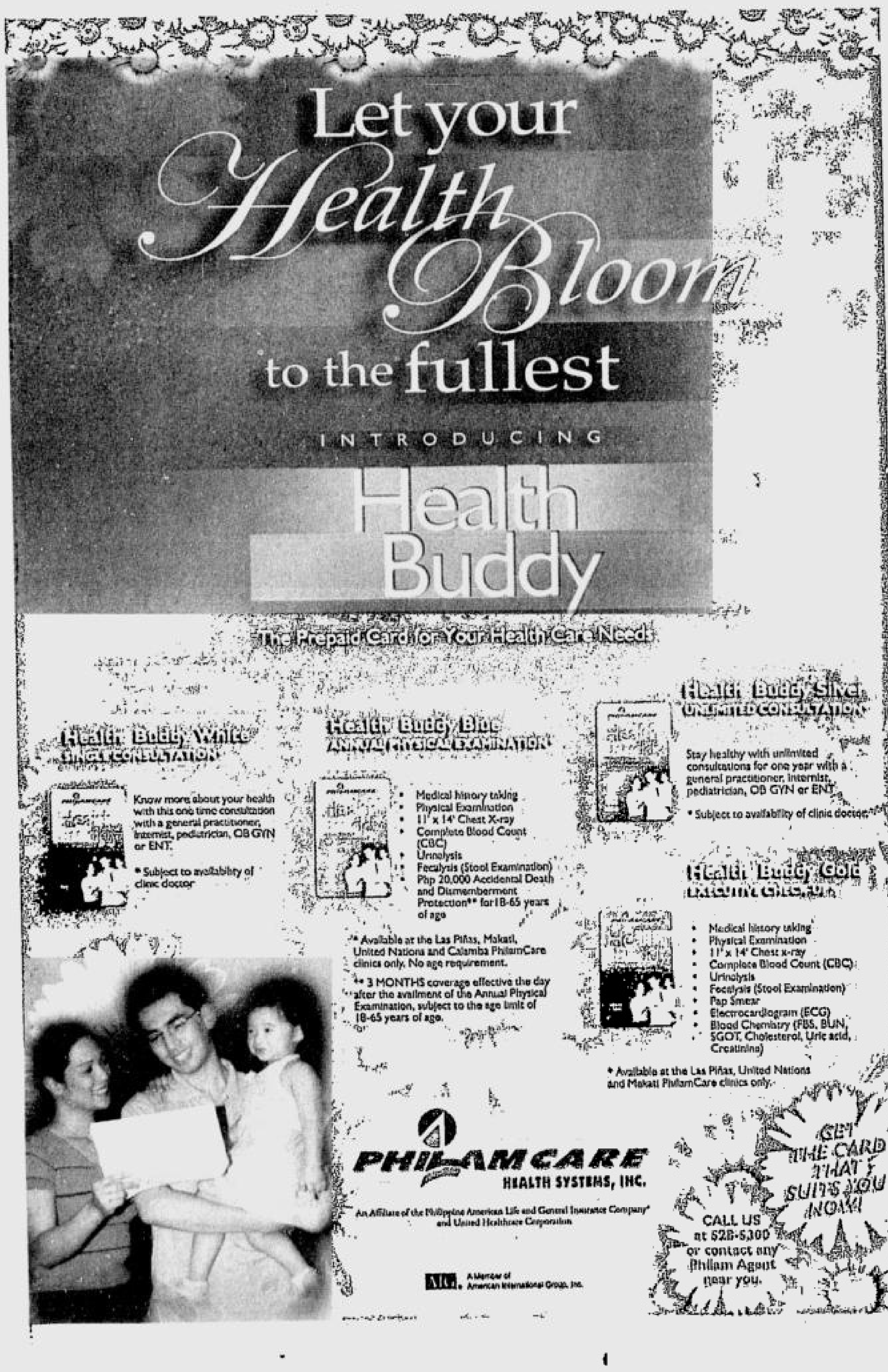
"We have to see to it that we run our operations in such a way that we always merit and meet the standards and requirements of our regulator," Hofileña said

Philam Plans religiously complies with the standards set by the Securities and Exchange Commission. As a company with multinational lineage, Philam Plans adheres to both domestic and international policies such as the Sarbanes-Oxley law governing U.S. companies. It has also been making its own initiatives toward increased transparency and good corporate governance.

Philam Plans continue to gain more maturity in the business in such a very challenging environment.

"At the very least the public can expect that as Philam Plans moves forward, there will be a greater commitment on our part to serve more of their needs while, at the same time, be true to our promise," Hofileña said.


AIG Credit Cards
flexigives
AIG INSTALLMENT PLAN
Be blown away
by captivating movies
and breath-taking sights.
Get these instantly when you buy on installment.
For more inquiries, call 636-8600 NOW!
We've got your family covered.


Let your Health Bloom to the fullest
INTRODUCING
Health Buddy
The Prepaid Card for Your Health Care Needs
Health Buddy White
SINGLE CONSULTATION
Know more about your health with this one time consultation with a general practitioner, internist, pediatrician, OB GYN or ENT.
* Subject to availability of clinic doctor
Health Buddy Blue
ANNUAL PHYSICAL EXAMINATION
- Medical history taking
- Physical Examination
- 11" x 14" Chest X-ray
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Urinalysis
- Fecalysis (Stool Examination)
- Php 20,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment Protection** for 18-65 years of age
* Available at the Las Piñas, Makati, United Nations and Calamba PhilamCare clinics only. No age requirement.
** 3 MONTHS coverage effective the day after the availment of the Annual Physical Examination, subject to the age limit of 18-65 years of age.
Health Buddy Silver
UNLIMITED CONSULTATION
Stay healthy with unlimited consultations for one year with a general practitioner, internist, pediatrician, OB GYN or ENT.
* Subject to availability of clinic doctor
Health Buddy Gold
EXECUTIVE CHECK-UP
- Medical history taking
- Physical Examination
- 11" x 14" Chest x-ray
- Complete Blood Count (CBC)
- Urinalysis
- Fecalysis (Stool Examination)
- Pap Smear
- Electrocardiogram (ECG)
- Blood Chemistry (FBS, BUN, SGOT, Cholesterol, Uric acid, Creatinine)
* Available at the Las Piñas, United Nations and Makati PhilamCare clinics only.
PHILAMCARE HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
An Affiliate of the Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company and United Healthcare Corporation
AIG A Member of American International Group, Inc.
GET THE CARD THAT SUITS YOU NOW!
CALL US at 528-5300 or contact any Philam Agent near you.

*Celebrating 16 years of Serving the Filipino Family*

PHILAM PLANS

## LIVE THE DREAMS OF YOUR FAMILY TOGETHER WITH PHILAM PLANS

Amidst these challenging times, your family deserves a brighter and more secured future. Philam Plans offers various genuine pre-need products fit for every kind of family be they from the upscale, midrange, and broad-based markets.

For every Philam Plans product, we ensure the security of your money.

### Growing Through an Enriched Life

Philam Plans offers flexible education plans with various features for different needs including the *Gold Premiere Education Plan*, the *Gold Education Plan*, and the *Pangako Education Plan*. The first two offers the finest benefits for elementary, high school, and college education which are not limited to tuition fees only but also extends to payment for school supplies, transportation, and daily allowances. With the low installment payment scheme of the latter, every Filipino parent can now provide education for his child.

Philam Plans begins paying educational benefits to its elementary, high school and college scholars earlier than the period set in their contracts. This coming school year, eight thousand students will receive benefits totalling to P87 million as early as April. Philam Plans scholars increased by 28% from only 6,186 in 2004 to more than 8,000. Total amount of benefits to be paid has likewise increased by more than 40% compared to the previous period.

Time doesn't always have to be about the fears that come with deadlines, or learning to live with uncertainty. If seized properly, time can reveal its true nature: something deep and beautiful. And if one is brave enough to face it from that kind of vantage point, then one can see the world even clearer, even in one's golden years.

To ensure the enjoyment of those golden years, Philam Plans offers four kinds of pension plans: the *Future Fund Pension Plan, Future Fund Plus, Future Fund Prime* and the *Pangarap Pension Plan.*

The Future Fund line provide generous retirement packages that covers family needs to fund major expenses in the present time and retirement expenses decades ahead. On the other hand, the relatively inexpensive Pangarap provides basic insurance benefits with the option of getting more coverage than the current government and company retirement benefits that the average Filipino depends on in his twilight years.

With the right goals, the right decisions and the right partner, every family gets to live their lifetime dreams.

With Philam Plans, every lifetime is an unfolding miracle.

## IN COMMITMENT TO THE WELL-BEING OF THE FILIPINO FAMILY

Philam Plans deeds of service do not stop with its employees, salesforce and clients. Dedicated to securing the lives of the Filipino people, Philam Plans is committed to reach out to the Filipino people through genuine acts of service.

The year 2004 saw the company determinedly empathizing with the plight of the community they serve. When a torrent of typhoons devastated our *kababayans* in Luzon and when tsunamis killed thousands of Southeast Asians, Philam Plans, together with the whole Philam Group of Companies, went beyond the confines of its offices to provide momentary relief and long-term rehabilitation to those who suffered from these catastrophes.

And when there were no natural disasters to remedy, Philam Plans was taking up the plights of several various causes.

In Relay for Life: A fight against Cancer, Philam Plans raised a significant amount for cancer research through sheer teamwork. Sales counselors from all over the country especially in Metro Manila, donated part of their commissions that their donations alone made up half of the funds raised. Moreover, Philam Plans employees completed an 18-hour non-stop walk or jog relay to raise funds. This was held at Philsports Arena last December 11 and 12, 2004.

Through the Children's Hour, one hundred and twenty nine employees voluntarily gave at least an hour of their earnings to fund programs under the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) that will raise awareness on children's issues and develop social responsibility among individuals and corporations.

And every December, volunteer employees and sales counselors devote time to visit the pediatric wards of the PGH to spread Christmas' warmth and mirth to the children patients. Last year, Philam Plans received cash contributions and loads of donations in kind for distribution to the children.

Indeed, Philam Plan's Corporate Citizenship, backed by the steadfast spirit of volunteerism of each and everyone of its employees, proves that the company is unwavering in its commitment to service the Filipino family.

## PHILAM PLANS, NURTURING ITS OWN FAMILY

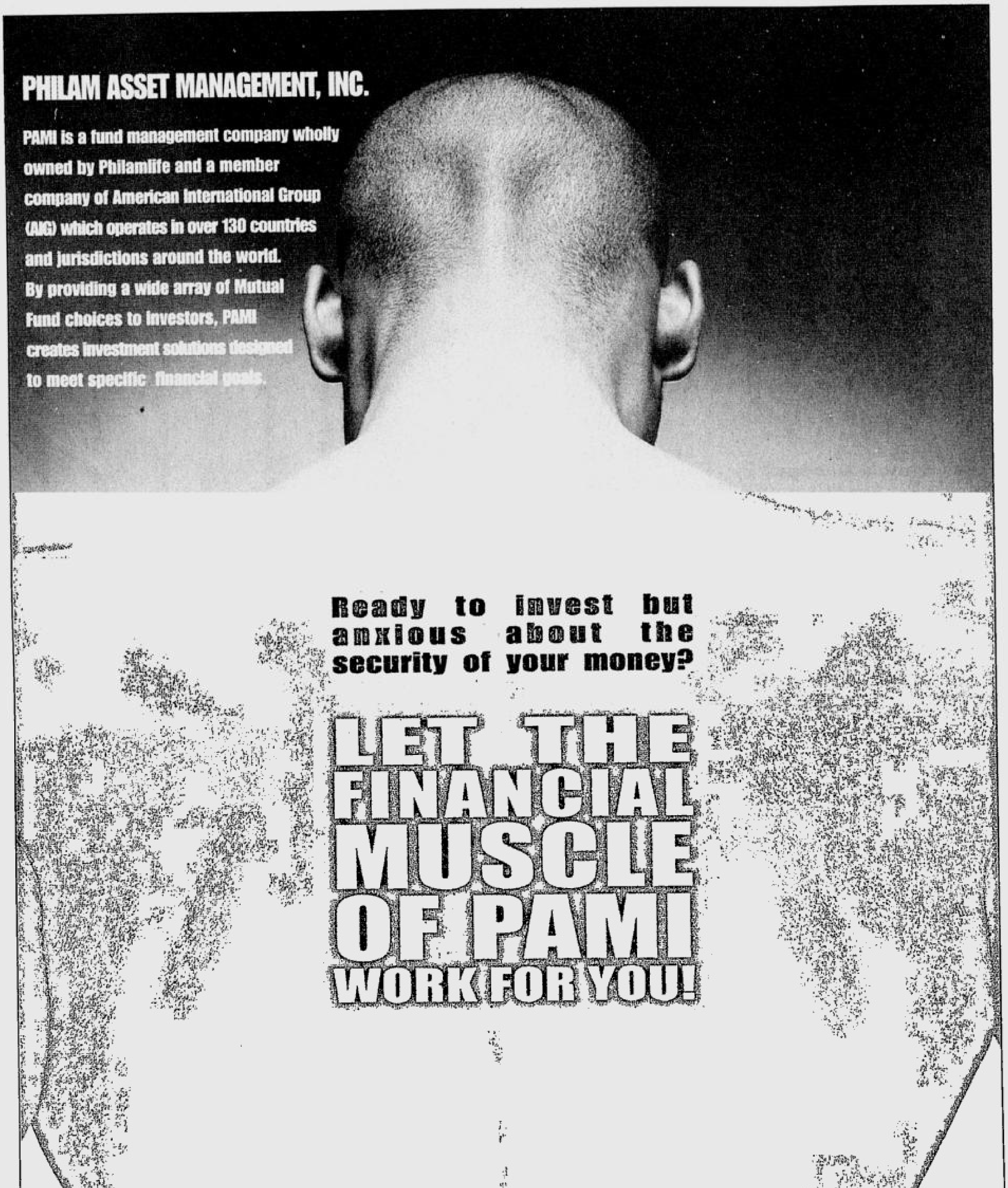
Philam Plans, while helping others, also helps its own family - its employees and salesforce. Its people are the company's number one asset, its most important resource, and its partner in the noble commitment of making better lives for Filipinos.

More than the benefits and compensation, Philam Plans shapes its people to imbibe a culture of excellence through intensive training and development programs that include business conferences, learning sessions, and team building activities. Once in a while, President & CEO Jesus G. Hofileña schedules meetings with the employee force to layout his views and visions for the company, and prod them to continue their good deeds that drive Philam Plans toward achieving its company goals.

Philam Plans is a company that knows the value of each of its employees. No matter how small the contributions may seem, praise and commendations abound the walls of the company, giving way for volunteerism and cooperation amongst the employee force especially during company events and activities.

Excellence is recognized and rewarded on the agency level as well. "Award for Marketing Excellence" is given to agencies that exemplified the highest level of marketing excellence. The Annual Awards recognizes the performances of sales agents with rewards and travel incentives. Loyalty to the company of both employees and sales is rewarded during the company anniversary.

For sixteen years, the company has proven that it is strongest when all its employees work together towards a common goal, which is to be "One with the Filipino family." Each one of them, from the management executives down to the ordinary employees, is bound by this commitment, sharing their expertise to provide Filipinos a means to prepare for a bright, secured tomorrow.


PHILAM ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.
Ready to invest but anxious about the security of your money?
LET THE FINANCIAL MUSCLE OF PAMI WORK FOR YOU!

PAMI is a fund management company wholly owned by Philamlife and a member company of American International Group (AIG) which operates in over 130 countries and jurisdictions around the world. By providing a wide array of Mutual Fund choices to investors, PAMI creates investment solutions designed to meet specific financial goals.

**EQUITY-LACED FUNDS**

**Philam Strategic Growth Fund, Inc.**

Gateway to the stock market minus the qualms of managing the equity portfolio on your own

**Philam Fund, Inc. and GSIS Kinabukasan Mutual Fund, Inc.**

For investors who want to benefit from a market-responsive combination of stocks and fixed-income instruments

**Invest now and muscle your way to financial success!**

| Funds Placement | | Minimum Yield | YTD Yield As of March 31, 2005 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Philam Strategic Growth Fund, Inc. | ₱ | 10,000.00 | 8.67% |
| Philam Fund, Inc. | ₱ | 10,000.00 | 7.46% |
| Philam Bond Fund, Inc. | ₱ | 5,000.00 | 1.85% |
| Philam Dollar Bond Fund, Inc. | US$ | 2,000.00 | 1.01% |
| GSIS Kinabukasan Mutual Fund, Inc. | ₱ | 5,000.00 | 7.13% |

Past performances are not indicative of future performances. The funds' perfomance may fluctuate.

**BOND FUNDS**

**Philam Bond Fund, Inc.**

Designed for investors who want to break free from the traditional fixed-income placements.

**Philam Dollar Bond Fund, Inc.**

Ideal investment for people who value the concept of hedging against currency risk and inflation at the same time

For more details and copies of the funds' prospectuses, call your Philam Group agent or counselor.

5F Philamlife (Salcedo) Bldg., 126 L.P. Leviste St. Salcedo Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos: Manila - (02) 867-3912 to 18; Cebu - (032) 254-6659; Iloilo - (033) 336-0912
Bacolod - (034) 433-9088; Davao - (082) 224-3245;
Cagayan de Oro - (088) 856-4593; General Santos - (083) 552-9190
Website: www.philamfunds.com

PHILAM ASSET MANAGEMENT, INC.

The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services: Life and General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre-Need Plans • Savings and Mortgage • Mutual Fund Investments • Property Development • Credit Cards • Business Processing Service • Bancassurance • Financial Advisory Service

AIG® A Member of American International Group, Inc.

# Philamlife to Release P165M in Education Benefits

**The country's No. 1** life insurance company, Philamlife, announced today the release of more than one hundred million pesos worth of education benefits for Philamlife scholars starting May 2, 2005 in all its branches nationwide.

A total of P165.7 million in the form of bank checks and auto-credit transfers to Philam Bank savings accounts and Banco de Oro cash cards, are ready for disbursement to the parents of Philamlife scholars by the first week of May.

### Way Ahead of Enrollment

These benefits are intended for the tuition and other enrollment expenses of the scholars covered by Philamlife's various education insurance products, mainly Scholar Gold Prime and Advantage, dollar-denominated International Scholar and other Scholar Gold products. The timely release of these benefits will allow parents to enroll their children for school year 2005-06.

### A History of Unbroken Commitment

Philamlife launched its first education insurance product, called "Philamlife Scholar" in December 1985. Since then, it has continuously enhanced its products to meet the changing needs of the market. Scholar Plus was launched in 1990 and featured a short 5-year paying period. Scholar Gold followed in 1993 with improved features and benefits. International Scholar, the company's first dollar-denominated education product, was launched in 2001.

Philamlife education products are "fixed-value" in nature, unlike most pre-need educational products that belong to the so-called "traditional or open-ended" plans. Open-ended plans are plans that promise to pay for the education of a child when he steps into college, regardless of how much the tuition fees are at that time. Since tuition fees have increased significantly over the years due to de-regulation -- as much as 275% from 1992 to 1997 alone according to some published reports --companies selling traditional plans have seen their trust funds depleted. This has led to problems in meeting these companies' commitments to their planholders.

### Excellent Management of Funds

Fixed-value education products, on the other hand, peg the promised payment to a specific pre-computed amount, and are thus more viable and easily managed. With fixed-value plans, a company knows exactly how much its obligations will be at a certain point in time, and can thus manage its trust funds more effectively.

Philamlife has consistently and faithfully paid-out education benefits to its more than a hundred thousand scholars through the years. Over the past 3 years (2003-2005), Philamlife has paid-out a total of P656.8 million in Scholar education benefits. Philamlife actually started paying-out education benefits to its scholars as far back as May 1992.

Philamlife is the leading and most diversified life insurance company in the country. Its comprehensive range of life insurance products answers the various financial needs of its customers at different points in their life, e.g., education, protection, health and retirement. Philamlife insurance policies help Filipino families enjoy a secure and prosperous financial future.

### Simultaneous Nationwide Release

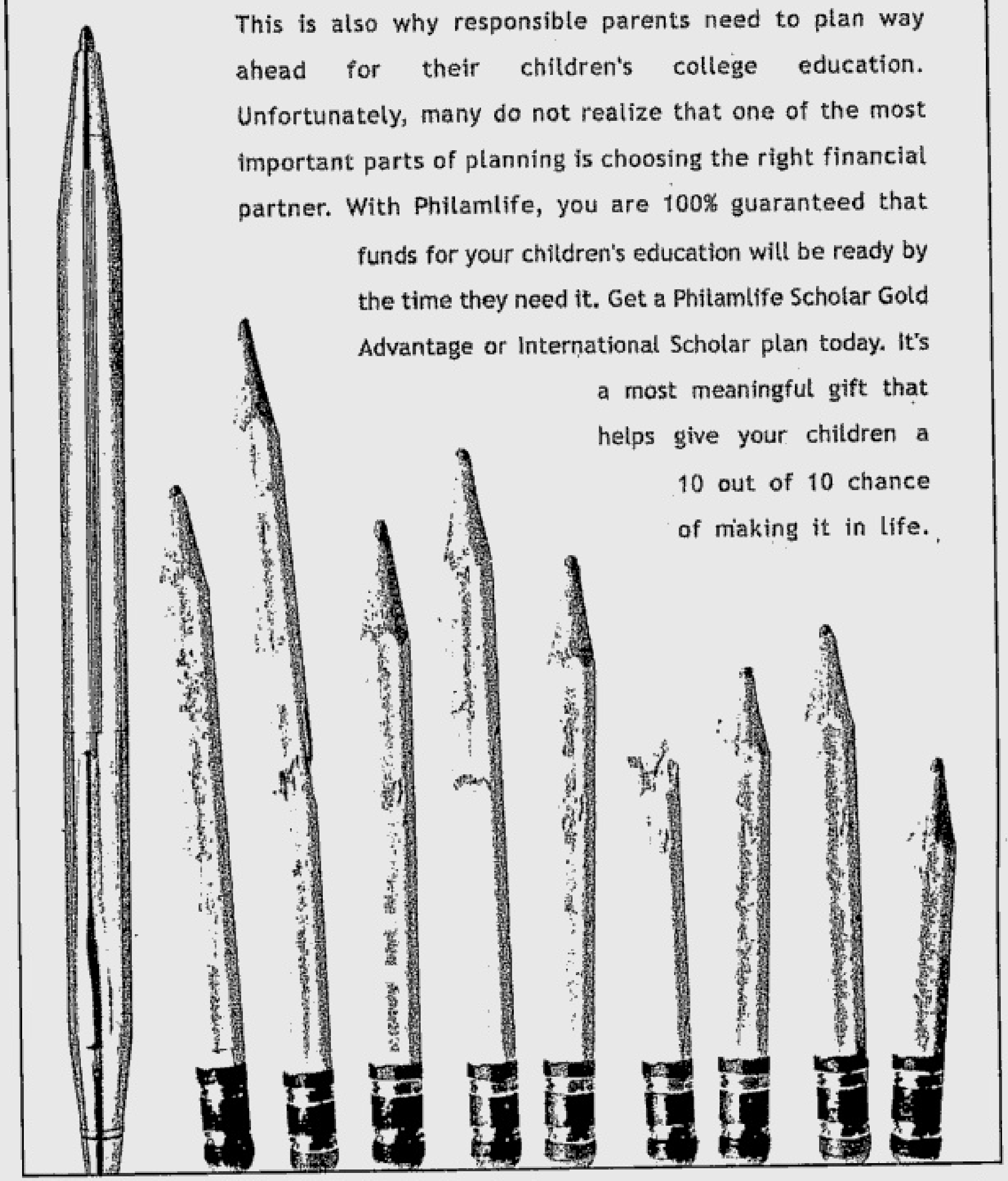
Scholar recipients will be notified through the local branch where they can claim their checks. Philamlife Agents can also assist policy owners in getting these benefits.

For inquiries, contact Philam Phone at 528-2000.

---

## Only 1 out of 10 Children enters college.

This is the harsh truth according to the 2000 NSO report. This is also why responsible parents need to plan way ahead for their children's college education. Unfortunately, many do not realize that one of the most important parts of planning is choosing the right financial partner. With Philamlife, you are 100% guaranteed that funds for your children's education will be ready by the time they need it. Get a Philamlife Scholar Gold Advantage or International Scholar plan today. It's a most meaningful gift that helps give your children a 10 out of 10 chance of making it in life.



---

International Scholar

Scholar Gold Advantage

Mula noon...
hanggang ngayon...
hanggang sa kinabukasan...

## Tuluy-tuloy ang Benepisyo, Tuluy-tuloy ang Pag-aaral

para sa

## Philamlife Scholars

Tulad ng daang libong mga pamilyang aming taos-puso
at buong tapat na pinaglilingkuran, makakaasa po kayo na ang
buong organisasyon ng Philamlife ay walang humpay na itataguyod
ang pag-aaral ng inyong mga anak tungo sa isang masaganang kinabukasan.

**PHILAM LIFE**
*Are You Ready for Life?*

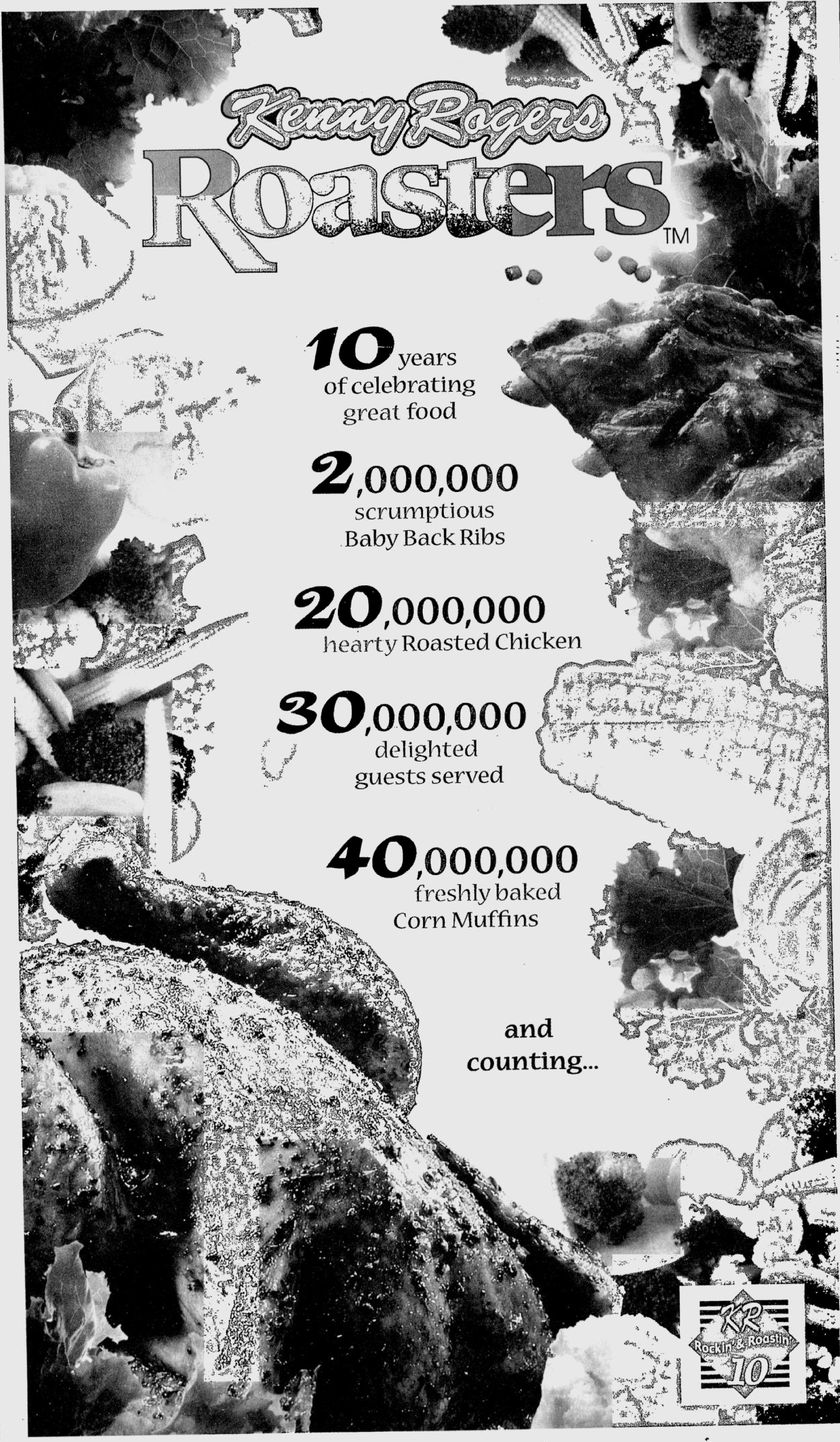
AIG. A Member of American International Group, Inc.

www.ephilam.com

Reader's Digest Philippines Superbrand 2004 Platinum

**The Philam Group of Companies offers you a full range of financial services:** Life & General Insurance • Property & Casualty Insurance • Health Care Management • Pre-Need Plans • Banking • Mutual Funds • Property Development • Credit Cards • Business Process Outsourcing • Bancassurance • Financial Advisory Services

*Contact us at: (02) 528-2000 or text ASK<space>AD/DIPLOMA/YOUR NAME/YOUR TOWN OR CITY and send to 0918 974 4526 / 0917 521 5433*



# Kenny Rogers Roasters™

**10** years
of celebrating
great food

**2**,000,000
scrumptious
Baby Back Ribs

**20**,000,000
hearty Roasted Chicken

**30**,000,000
delighted
guests served

**40**,000,000
freshly baked
Corn Muffins

**and
counting...**

KR
Rockin' & Roastin'
10

# A Perfect 10

## Home-Cooked Goodness You've Come to Love

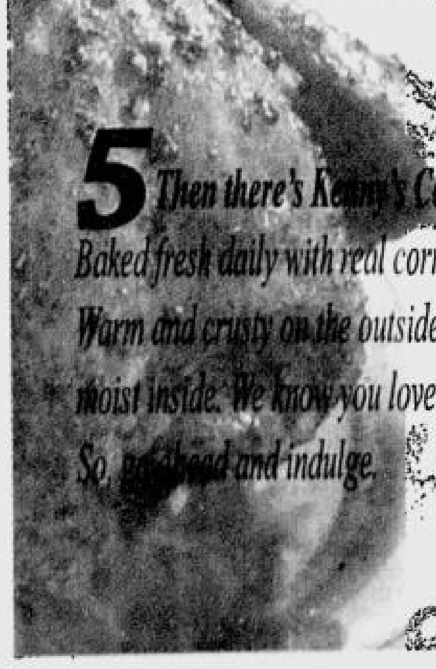
**1** *Everything Prepared Right In Front Of You.* Our chickens sizzle at the counter. We've got nothing to hide and plenty to be proud of: fresh, healthy ingredients prepared with homestyle goodness.

**2** *Roasted Chicken.* There's nothing more mouthwatering than our roasted chicken. But did you know it's healthy as well? Be Heart Smart. Half a chicken (without the skin!) has less than 90 calories of fat! Order it Classic, California, or Spicy, it can't get much healthier than that.

**3** *Baby Back Ribs.* If what you're craving for is real, honest-to-goodness baby back ribs, juicy, tender and baked to perfection, then look no further than our Kenny Rogers' Baby Back Ribs - steeped in our special Honey-Bourbon sauce. They're top-notch in quality and taste and also the most affordable in the market.

**4** *Side Dishes Galore.* Made fresh on the hour for you to pick and choose: Corn & Carrot Nibblets, Macaroni & Cheese, Chicken Macaroni Salad, Mashed Potato, Baby Corn & Mushroom, Garlic Butter Mushroom, Fresh Fruit Salad, Steamed Vegetables, Coleslaw, and Potato Salad. Choose a couple. Choose them all.

**5** *Then there's Kenny's Corn Muffins.* Baked fresh daily with real corn meal. Warm and crusty on the outside; soft and moist inside. We know you love them. So, go ahead and indulge.



# Kenny Rogers Roasters™

more reasons to

# KR Rockin' & Roastin' @ 10

NEW!

## California R

**Roasted to golden perfec**
**Every bite juicy, tender**
**seasoned just right in a**
**only Kenny knows how.**

NEW!

## LARGE CUT FRIES

**Big on taste, big on fun. With free garlic mayo or cheese dip. Forget the small fries!**

Kenny's
Muffin Mix Set
Fresh-baked Corn Muffins
Kenny's GREATS
Roasters

# FREE Kenny's Muffin

## with Kenny's GREATS ca

Get your card from any Kenny R outlet.

Get a stamp each time you purc any of Kenny's GREATS Selecti

Once your card is completed, yo receive your free Muffin Mix Se

Promo period is from April 15, 2 to June 15, 2005.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1677 . Series of

oast

tion.
and
way

at

ard

Rogers

hase
ons.

ou'll

2005

2005

## celebrate with us, our 10th year...

NEW! FROST BITES

**The perfect summer shaved iced dessert in four flavors-- Halo-Halo, Mango, Strawberry and Corn.**

Corn
Strawberry
FR
Mango
Halo-Halo
FROS

## SEEING DOUBLE?

DOUBLE?

## Buy One Get One FREE

## ON ALL CHICKEN SOLO MEALS

## ON APRIL 27

### WEDNESDAY

Limit to five (5) orders per transaction • Offer is also good for chicken only purchases
Available at all Kenny Rogers outlets • No advance orders • Dine-in and Take-out only
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1675, Series of 2005

**6** *Great Food, Best Value. Fastfood chains can't compare with Kenny Rogers Roasters when it comes to quality food at affordable prices. Our home-cooked meals, our tender chicken and our delectable ribs, our outstanding array of hot and cold side dishes and our scrumptious muffins, at prices that are easy on the pocket.*

**7** *We Never Grow Old. At Kenny Rogers Roasters, we're always trying new things. We keep in touch with what our customers need and want from a homestyle restaurant. We're always refreshing our menus, adding new flavors, finding new ways to serve you hot and healthy meals that fit your taste and lifestyle.*

**8** *Healthy Eating. 10 years ago Kenny Rogers Roasters was already the healthiest and best tasting food choice in town, serving food in away only mom also knows how. We still are, devoting ourselves to constantly offering new choices in delicious and healthy eating.*

**9** *A Friendly Greeting. Kenny Rogers Roasters still reigns as the first fastfood chain to have friendly crew help you bring your food to your table. They'll take your trays to your table for you. They'll bring you your food when it's ready. And if you need anything else, they'll be there to help. We want you to feel right at home...just relax, and enjoy the food.*

**10** *So when you're feeling the need for a hearty, healthy, home-style meal, don't fret. Here's one last number to remember :*

*533-8888*

*our* ***delivery hotline*** *and we'll be there in no time.*

Eastwood City
Glorietta
Roxas Blvd
Quezon Ave
Robinsons Galleria
Filinvest
Robinsons Place Ermita
Robinsons Imus
Greenhills
SM Megamall
SM Southmall
SM Fairview
SM City
SM City Annex
SM Cubao
SM Baguio
SM Marilao
SM Bicutan
SM Pampanga
SM Centerpoint
SM Lucena
SM Iloilo
SM Davao
SM Bacoor
SM Manila
Taft Ave.
Katipunan
Starmills Pampanga
Nepo Mall Pampanga
533-8888
533-8888
533-8888
Roasters
Duty Free
Gaisano Mall Davao
Lipa City North H'way
Sta. Lucia
Limketkai Mall Cagayan de Oro
Ayala Center Cebu
NE Cabanatuan
NepoMall Dagupan
Shangrila
Tutuban Center Mall
UST
Festival Mall
Parksquare
Market! Market!
Luneta
Grand Central Ever Gotesco
Olongapo
Rockwell
SM San Lazaro
NLEX
SLEX
Session Road Baguio
Ayala Convergys

**Thank you, friends and partners, for 10 great years!**

Great Food Solutions
San Miguel Purefoods

Purefoods Flour
Monterey
Magnolia Gold Pure & Creamy Butter
Magnolia Fresh Chicken
Purefoods Hormel
Purefoods Hormel Company Inc.

Pillsbury™

DKSH
Edward Keller (Philippines) Inc

Coca-Cola

KLG INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Foodservice Division

BSFIL Technologies Inc

KR
Rockin' & Roastin' @10

Now with 46 stores to serve you and still growing!